Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-91-144
Friday
26 July 1991

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FBIS-LAT-91-144 *26 July 1991*

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Cuba

Castro, Mandelas Open Pan-Am Games Village

FL2607132791 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] The Pan-American village was opened in Havana yesterday in the presence of Commander Fidel Castro and African National Congress President Nelson Mandela. The flags of the Pan-American Games, the International Olympic Committee, and the City of Havana were raised to the strains of the international olympic hymn. Jose Ramon Fernandez, president of the COPAN [Pan-American Committee], praised the efforts of the construction workers to finish on time and with the necessary quality the Pan-American games facilities. Afterward, our commander in chief spoke:

[Begin Castro recording] It is appropriate to repeat that the most important medal will be the gold medal for hospitality. But, we should not renounce any of the other medals. We hope we will win lots of them and that they will be of high quality. Well, since this involves sports, and in sports we do not talk about politics, but since we have not yet started the competition [audience laughs]. It is that way in the inaugural speech. You all know how the inaugural speech is. It is a line with: this was this; and that was that: and this was when; and nothing more. [audience laughs] This will be a short speech. It will be shorter than the speech in Mexico. Since we are still among ourselves here, with the presence of such an illustrious fighter [indicates Nelson Mandela] it is appropriate to say, once more: Socialism or death! Fatherland or death! We will win! [applause] [end recording]

Commentaries View Guadalajara Presidents' Summit

Castro Message Cited

PA2507160091 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Jul 91

["Our America" commentary, read by Julio Dominguez]

[Text] The chiefs of state and government who met recently in Guadalajara agreed that it is necessary to produce a unified political will to find solutions and to be able to face the challenges that their countries are confronting.

The final document—called the Guadalajara Declaration—states that the basis of the Latin American community is democracy, respect for human rights, and fundamental liberties.

The document reaffirms the principles of sovereignty and nonintervention and acknowledges each nation's right to freely work for peace, stability, and justice as well as to decide on their own political systems and institutions.

Undoubtedly, it is very important to acknowledge the fact that the unity principle is necessary for Latin America to march forward at this difficult time, especially when it is evident that the possibility of facing current multiple challenges depends on Latin American unity and strength.

The existence of the much talked about democracy could be threatened if solutions to the problems of extreme poverty and destitution in which almost half of the population lives are not found rather quickly.

In the message he delivered at the summit, Cuban President Fidel Castro said that it is not possible to speak of democracy and participation to people who lack the most elemental rights and who view equality as an empty and abstract concept.

The message of the Cuban statesman is important because it is known that these objectives will be reached as the country's economic crisis is resolved, as changes take place to produce an equitable distribution of wealth, and as conditions are created so that the people have access to social benefits.

Meanwhile, there will be a continuation of violations of fundamental human rights, such as the right to work and be adequately paid for that work, to own a place to live, and to have access to health services and other services that approximately 50 percent of Latin Americans lack.

We think this is the only way we would be able to say that our people live in true democracy, because they would also enjoy full political rights. That is, they would be able to choose, in an independent and sovereign manner, the most effective form of organizing society.

In Cuba's case, Fidel Castro said in Guadalajara, [words indistinct].

New Relations Started

PA2507193391 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1400 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon: "Relations Between Paraguay and Cuba"]

[Text] The recent Ibero-American presidents' summit in Guadalajara, Mexico, began a process of rapprochement and contacts among Latin American presidents, who for the first time attended a regional forum without being convoked by the hegemonic power: the United States. The speeches given by the leaders, and the meetings held among themselves, facilitated the discovery of a common ground on their respective positions, which is difficult to find in long-distance relations. The Cuban delegation, led by President Fidel Castro, went to Guadalajara without prejudices; it welcomed the just—even courageous—positions of many presidents, regardless of whether their countries have diplomatic ties with the Antillean island or not.

The atmosphere of respect achieved at the summit, which does not imply unanimity on all the issues, paved the way so that Latin Americans could live without

prejudice, respecting each other's right to choose their own political and economic models. Although the current situation is characterized by a predomination of neoliberal ideologies and praise for old, ineffectual methods of a market economy, Cuba reasserted in Guadalajara that its planned socialist development model and its political determination are favorable elements for integration—the touchstone for the subcontinent.

Within this context, steps were taken to restore commercial and cultural relations between the Greater Antilles island and Colombia and Chile. Later on, Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken announced to the Asuncion newspaper ABC COLOR that his country will soon establish commercial and consular relations with Cuba. This represents another step in Paraguay's efforts to join the Latin American current from which it was isolated during Alfredo Stroessner's 35-year-old dictatorship. The increase of ties with Latin American nations represents one of Cuba's priority goals, because the western hemisphere is its natural environment; it has historical ties with Latin America that have not been broken by those who would like to see a wall between the island and its neighbors.

Ortega Comments on Ibero-American Summit

FL2507141891 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Interview with former Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega by reporter Alicia Cascaret at the Jose Marti International Airport, 24 July—recorded]

[Text] [Cascaret] What are your thoughts on the results of the Ibero-American Summit of Guadalajara?

[Ortega] I think it was a meeting of great importance for the Ibero-American people and particularly the Latin American people. We are facing a new situation. The Ibero-American Summit changed the quality of the relations between Latin American countries. Especially since the United States is present in the forum of the Organization of American States [OAS]. The U.S. presence has always weakened that forum. We are aware of the role the OAS has played as a U.S. pawn, totally committed to U.S. political interests.

We are facing a completely new perspective in Latin American integration. A perspective that responds to Latin American interests. A perspective that has a real future. This was a great first step. The fact that Cuba was present in the figure of Fidel points out the place that it has earned in spite of the isolation campaign against Cuba. We could not conceive of a meeting of this kind without Cuba's presence. Cuba's participation; the respect shown toward Cuba; and the joint statements made in the economic, political, and social fields are a sign of hope for the Latin American people.

The practical implementation of these proposals, these meetings, does not depend on the will of the leaders but on the will of the people. As popular, progressive, revolutionary, and religious movements gain momentum in support of the real integration of Latin America, a new possibility for participation will be opened for popular sectors. What should Latin American integration strengthen? Should it strengthen neoliberalism and capitalism? It should open the road to popular participation, to justice, to freedom.

The Latin American people, their leaders, and their political movements face a challenge to truly apply the Guadalajara resolution. This resolution can be very effective but needs support to turn words into actions. In this manner the success of the Guadalajara summit can be assured.

Commentary Calls For Latin American Unity

PA2507155791 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Our America" commentary; read by Urbino Amaya]

[Text] The praiseworthy objective of Latin American unity was established in the final document of the region's presidential summit that took place recently in the Mexican city of Guadalajara.

The Initiative for the Americas, however, could represent a fatal blow against that project. This warning was issued by Cuban President Fidel Castro in the speech he delivered at the meeting.

In the opinion of the Cuban statesman, the initiative that President George Bush has presented to Latin America is the result not of U.S. generosity but of the domestic needs of the United States, because as its military supremacy becomes increasingly marked, it loses ground in the economic competition between the big blocs.

Statistics show that Latin America is very dependent on the U.S. market. The creation of a free trade zone is a basic premise in the U.S. plans. In the eyes of the North, the region has lost importance in the export and import fields.

The information provided by Fidel Castro at the Latin America summit is very eloquent. In 1970 [two-second break in reception]. In 1983, dependency on sales increased to 43 percent, while dependency on purchases increased to almost 42 percent. [sentence as heard]

Statistics also show that most Latin American exports were raw materials and that the exporting of manufactured goods was minimal.

We could ask: What is the basis of free trade with a nation that has erected protectionist barriers against most important Latin American export items and has encouraged only the exporting of raw material from the region, to the detriment of manufactured products?

The Cuban president referred to another Initiative for the Americas aspect that is a source of concern: the matter of generalization. Generalizing is aimed, he said,

at integrating commerce to investments and services as sources with which to exert pressure to facilitate the operations of transnational enterprises.

Regarding the reduction of Latin America's debt with the United States, Fidel Castro said that the reduction of $7 billion from the official debt to Washington is marginal since it represents less than 2 percent of the total foreign debt.

It has been said that the Initiative for the Americas would make our countries poorer because free trade means opening doors for U.S. products and local producers cannot compete with U.S. products.The U.S. initiative is an option that the Latin American countries must study carefully because economic and social backwardness may force them to accept the imposition of an ominous alignment.This is why integration is now more than ever a very important objective for the countries of the region.

Castro Inspects Progress of Food Program

FL2507151091 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1403 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has visited once again the Guira de Melena miscellaneous crops enterprise to inspect the progress of the food program. On this occasion he inquired about the students of the Jose Antonio Echevarria Technological School whom are working in nearby Alquizar. He showed interest in the grape crop and toured the facilities of Sonrisa de la Victoria Camp where he praised the plantain crop which extends all the way to the nearby roads. Fidel said that not an inch of soil is wasted in Guira de Melena. He also noticed that the fields were free of weeds and said that agriculture is going through big changes compared to previous years.

Program Examines PCC Development Process

FL2507232591 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2328 GMT 24 Jul 91

["In Our Own Voice" segment of the "Exclusivo" program with host Lazaro Barredo and guests Orlando Sardina and Gustavo Cordoba]

[Text] [Barredo] Hello, friends. This is Lazaro Barredo with "In Our Own Voice." Today is the second part of the subject we are following up on concerning the process of improving the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] prior to the Fourth PCC Congress. Today we have the participation of Comrades Orlando Sardina and Gustavo Cordoba, political experts on party organization. Last Saturday, when we had the participation of Comrade Julio Garcia Luis, the president of the Cuban Journalists Union, and Dario Machado, the director of the PCC Central Committee Sociopolitical Studies and Advisory Center, we explained a bit, a few concepts, about our democratic process.

Recently, because of the Guadalajara Summit, a lot has been said about Cuba by innumerable theorists and a mixed group of enemies of the revolution in Latin America, Europe, and the United States. I can honestly say that I continue to be surprised about these allegations concerning the politics of continuity when I have the opportunity of reading the opinions of neoliberal theorists in other countries. Neoliberalism is so much in fashion right now, and they make their ethical declamations with a frenzied exaltation of individual persons who are in power. One has no choice but to be surprised.

The party is not the prominent thing for these theorists. The broad masses are not a determining factor in decision-making. Rather, they exalt the individual personality and the political style of the new leader, who as a result of a justified struggle for power can build and destroy, can plot, split up parties, etc., and for these people that person continues to be democracy, to be democratic. I think that if that is democracy, they can have it. But a country like Cuba, which has a more all-inclusive political concept, has always put society's most fundamental issues to popular debate, with overwhelming support as we have seen with the basic document for the Fourth PCC Congress during the past year.

The populace formulated more than 1 million proposals, of which only 0.1 percent challenged socialism from an overall perspective. For these people, that 0.1 percent—which is a truly laughable figure—this is not democratic. So I imagine that with such inflexibility in their respect for our views, it must be a lot of work for those theorists to understand that our party does not lead because it has the power, but because it is capable of obtaining a true consensus from the people based on authentic premises and on its knowledge of the problems and their possible solutions. I say that the key to this lack of comprehension lies in the fact that they cannot understand what is happening, everything that our party is doing right now prior to the Fourth PCC Congress to give greater broadness to the participation by the masses. They do not understand how that party, our party, is not seeking democratic advances only in the direction of its organizational procedures, but that with a long view it aims all its actions in a more wide-ranging way towards the political and intellectual life of the Cuban nation.

I think that the process we are going to ...[rephrases] or that we are already holding in electing pre-candidates for delegates, and then in the direct election of the candidates, and the pre-candidates for members of the Central Committee, is unprecedented from the point of view of that broadness and that populist spirit. So I have given an introduction, and would like to ask you, who are the experts, to give an explanation to our listeners of how this whole process prior to the congress is going. Sardina?

[Sardina] Very good, with pleasure. In the first place, we should recall that it has been a tradition in our party in preparing for its congresses to create the conditions for broad participation by the whole party—that is, all the base-level organizations and members—in the matters

the congress is going to deal with, as well as promoting the participation of the workers, the people, in what will be dealt with, those matters that are going to be the focus of these events. I would say that this fourth congress, for which we are already involved in preparing, has been especially rich in this area, this process of participation, this democratic process. This began with the discussion of the basic document. As you have said so well, a large number of proposals were made, both within the party itself and at all the assemblies and all the meetings at which the workers, the people, participated. So this fourth congress has been validated by all this discussion, all these views, all these opinions, all these contributions which began to be made from the base level.

Of course, many of the things that have been presented are not necessarily going to reach the congress for a solution. You know that many measures are already being implemented and many solutions have been found. There were things that people submitted and argued repeatedly. They were assessed and analyzed by the appropriate organizations, and steps have begun to be taken to solve them, to change what had to and could be changed. So, from this point of view, the fourth congress has been characterized by this. Now we are facing another stage of the preparation of the congress.

[Cordoba] Allow me to say something before you go into the following stage. Certainly, I believe that the main goal of our party's leadership was to not wait for the congress to implement the measures that needed to be implemented by making changes and rectifying. This has been part of the rectification process. In the same way, the people cannot have false expectations. The congress alone is not going to solve all problems. It is not possible to think in this way. This is a process that will take time and analysis. For example, the electoral and constitutional processes are not going to be solved by the congress. They are going to be solved by the National Assembly. An example of this is this year's last session.

What the people need to understand is that all the matters that were brought up during the discussion of the call for the party congress have been analyzed and a practical solution will be found to the issues. If not, they will be implemented as we go along by implementing the measures that can help to find a solution to the concerns and interests that the population as a whole have expressed during the discussion of the call for the party congress. I thought it was important to point this out so that it was made clear that it cannot be expected that everything is going to be solved during the congress like a miracle, much less under the difficult special period circumstances the country is going through. The special period limits many of the aspects that have been brought up, for example, the economic one from the point of view of the perfecting of the economic policy model which will take us a little longer. It would not be realistic to perfect an economic model during the special period even though measures are being taken. They are perfecting the model in the area of agriculture and other fields in which work organization measures have been implemented.

Excuse me for interrupting but I thought it was important.

[Sardina] I believe the explanation was very appropriate. What you say is exactly right. I was telling you that after the assemblies are held in the municipalities we then enter another stage of the preparation of the congress. As it was explained in the previous program, we are holding elections of delegates to the congress and elections of nominees for members of the Central Committee.

In the case of delegate nominees, I would say that this is a process we have carried out before with some modifications. In the case of the election of nominees of the members of the Central Committee, it is something new. There are no type of antecedents in our party. We have no knowledge of it existing in any other case. Thus, this is a process that begins at base level organizations, at the nuclei of the party. It is a simultaneous process. The two are being carried out at the same time. Before getting into the how this process is carried out, into the details, I believe that we should talk a little about what is hoped for in terms of the composition of the congress.

It has been mentioned that the plan is to have a congress with 1,800 delegates. This is not a final figure. It will be confirmed soon by the congress' organizing committee. It was said that we should wait to be closer to the date set for the beginning of the event to determine the number of delegates according to the assessment of the country's situation at the time. Many factors could influence this.

The goal is to have 1,800 delegates. This is the same number of delegates that the previous congress, the third congress, had. Of these 1,800 delegates, it was decided that a third of them be elected directly at selected work centers. We are going to talk about the criteria used to make the selection. They are going to be elected directly in the nuclei of the party....

[Barredo, interrupting] Direct delegates?

[Sardina] Direct delegates to the congress. The plan is that over 50 percent of these delegates will be laborers and other workers directly linked to production, teaching, services, and scientific research. When we talk about workers linked to those activities we are referring to party members who do not have leadership responsibilities such as doctors who work directly with patients, engineers who work directly in projects, or scientific researchers who are working directly in laboratories, etc. This is the type of members we are referring to when we talk about workers linked to production. The plan, the purpose is for the congress to be composed of this. This is nothing more than a reflection of the composition of the party. Over 50 percent of the active members of the party fall in this category.

The intention is that the congress is not only a meeting of leaders but that it has a broad representation of the base level of the party.

[Barredo] Regarding the election of these people, according to the information published in GRANMA, I saw that the cells were asked to take into account a number of things in electing the people, to elect people who could make a contribution and have means to participate in the discussion so that the congress can be an event with a strong debate and the people can express their views regarding the main subjects brought up for discussion in the congress.

[Sardina] This is exactly right. We are going to talk a little about the procedures and requirements of what it is being asked from the comrades who are going to be elected. I was saying that it is a simultaneous process. These nominations and elections should be held in the regular meetings of the party's cells during July and August. What is required so that a comrade can be nominated at his party cell as delegate nominee to the congress? Each group can nominate a comrade if the group has up to 25 members. If it has over 25 members it can nominate two. They should be members of that cell and not from another cell of the party.

As a requirement it is proposed that the nominee has to have been a party member for at least a year. It is the minimum experience that we can ask from these comrades. In addition, they should be members who, in addition to their merits and revolutionary history, have the necessary ability to help with their ideas and views for the better development of the event. Of course, they should be able to express themselves in a simple and natural language. They do not have talk like intellectuals, he or she can be a laborer but a laborer who can communicate, who can make a contribution to this event with his or her opinions and experiences.

[Barredo] I do not know if you wanted to expand.

[Cordoba] I wanted to talk about something Sardina mentioned regarding the election of nominees to members of the Central Committee. I think it is an interesting matter because it is new in this election process for the congress. It is new in the sense that it is going to be applied in this congress because in reality, our party has systematically applied in previous congresses various innovations from the political, organizational point of view which allows it to go forward in the growing process of the application of the Marti-style democracy.

In reality, this is one of the steps that we consider to be more positive in all this historic evolution of our party. As Sardina was saying, we do not have information that this has been done in other parties, to create candidates of members of the Central Committee of a party from nominations at the base level.

Each one of the party's cells in the country will have the possibility of submitting its candidates for members of the Central Committee. I believe this is in line with what you were talking about at the beginning, that our democracy is a true democracy. It is participatory and not demagogic. It is precisely based on the contribution all of the members and even the workers and the population can make. One of the questions that are planned in this congress in the election of the candidates or nominees is that the workers are consulted on the abilities, the traits, and merits of those comrades the cell submits as its nominee for the congress.

Of course, this is a very broad source. In the civilian area we have almost 38,000 or 40,000 party nuclei. We have given the right to all those cells to elect nominees for the congress. Naturally, we have also said that this matter is contingent upon the maturity, development, and responsibility the membership has acquired during all these years. When the conditions and resources are not present the cells are not forced to elect a nominee because of a rigid and automatic system. It was mentioned that when a cell applies rigorous, selective, and thorough criteria, it can decide that none should be elected among its members. This would be considered an expression of what I was said, a maturity worthy of praise and respect.

[Cordoba] Not all have to elect nominees for members of the Central Committee. They are not forced to do so. If they feel they have no one to nominate, they have no one. This is a show of maturity.

[Sardina] Exactly. Indeed, that is a show of maturity. This has been demonstrated. Up to now, in this month, some 83 percent of the cells have already gone through this process. Out of five party cells one has elected a nominee. That is, we consider this figure as adequate, is in line with the true requirements.

[Barredo] One out of five cells has elected nominees for member of the Central Committee?

[Sardina] Yes, we consider this figure normal and logical considering the size we have and the real possibilities existing in all the places. We have to take into account that this comprises the entire range of activities in the country, of sectors, etc. I believe that this is a very positive matter.

In addition, I wanted to say that we have to highlight the fact that this is a process that is characterized by its rigorousness, its efficiency, without a lot of fanfare. We all know that in other congresses....

[Cordoba, interrupting] In other places of the world this would be....

[Sardina, interrupting] A big deal.

[Cordoba] In other places of the world this would be a big deal. We have done this quietly here.

[Sardina] We have done this quietly. We have to stress that it has been very efficient, very strict, very thorough, from the point of view of our revolutionary ideas. This has constituted a true engine for this special period in which

we find ourselves, in the development of initiatives, implementation of resulting measures, to solve production and service problems, etc. It has been a great encouragement for base level workers and for the workers who have the possibility of electing delegates, nominees for members of the Central Committee. This has been a work of creating awareness and practical results. Everyone can see the liveliness and revolutionary awareness that exists in the entire country at this time regarding this process.

[Barredo] The delegate nominees and direct delegates, I imagine.... [changes thought] According to some statements made by Comrade Machado in Santiago de Cuba, the election of direct candidates will take in September. We have some many things going on now: the Pan-American Games, the election process, the agricultural activities. I understand that they have to be submitted to the workers for their discussion in the cases of production collectives, teaching area, and research centers. If this is so, I would also like to know about this. How is the process going to take place and how is it going to be done by areas?

[Cordoba] Yes, this is so, as you say. It has been arranged, and the instructions have been, that after nominating and approving their pre-candidates, the party cells must submit them to the consideration of the workers. This is for delegates, pre-candidates for delegates, and pre-candidates for members of the Central Committee. This will be done in two ways. One way is to call together the workers from the area where the worker who has been nominated works. The other way is to put a summary of the biography of the worker or the candidates that have been nominated on a wall or visible place in the work center. So the workers are going to have a good opportunity to express their views.

Moreover, the party wants this to occur. This is not just to go through the procedure and say that the workers were consulted, but the party is interested—as has been set forth in each of these assemblies, each of these consultations—in really knowing the opinion of the masses, the people, about these pre-candidates. I should say that there have already occurred some cases in which the workers have expressed their opinions, and it has even been necessary to revoke the candidates that the party cell had elected at the start. So this means that this is not just a formality but a real matter of the people's participation. The intention is for the workers to feel that these delegates who are going to go to the congress and these pre-candidates for the Central Committee are not only the party cells' nominees but are also the workers' own candidates. This is the spirit, the view, with which we are working.

Concerning what you were asking about the delegates that will be elected directly by the work centers, well, the idea is to have about 600, if the total figure for the congress stays the same. This figure was distributed proportionally among the provinces, and the centers were asked for their nominations. What centers are these? They are those that have good results concerning their work, that have traditions concerning their work, because in some cases they do not have raw materials right now, for example. They are not working right now. However, they may have a tradition of fulfilling their plans, of efficiency, and they may also be chosen.

These centers will carry out a special process, in which all the party members are going to participate in electing a delegate to the congress or even two delegates to the congress, depending on the importance of the work center or the size of the work center. So there will be a process in which the workers are also going to participate in the same way as we said above. The workers are going to participate at the centers where delegates are elected directly first by giving their opinions about the pre-candidates each cell at the center has chosen. Then when the candidate is chosen from that pool of pre-candidates, they will again have the chance to express their views.

[Barredo] The election of these candidates—because we are running out of time, and I would like to complete this idea of the process for people with this point—how will the election of these candidates be done?

[Sardina] You are referring to the centers....

[Barredo, interrupting] Concerning the delegates as well as....

[Sardina, interrupting] And the direct elections.

[Barredo] In an overall view.

[Sardina] In general.

[Barredo] The delegates and the candidates for membership in the Central Committee, because these are large figures. How is this going to be worked out down the road? How is this process going to take place? More or less in general, because I know you could say a lot about it, but I am running out of time.

[Sardina] Yes. I am not going to refer specifically to the process for the delegates elected directly, but in general. After the cells elect their pre-candidates for delegates and members of the Central Committee, these nominations will be evaluated by a commission that will be elected by the plenum of the provincial committee. This commission will be broad enough to contain representatives from the different municipalities, people from the base level, with great representation of the different elements. There cannot be anyone on this commission who is a pre-candidate. This commission should present a candidate to a session of the provincial assembly. These are the same delegates that were elected a few months ago. They are going to meet again especially to hold this kind of election. They are going to do this by considering the list of candidates and using a secret, direct vote. A list of candidates will be presented, and they can vote for up to 80 percent of the candidates. The number of positive votes will in the end determine who is elected.

Those elected will be all those who obtain more than 50 percent of the valid votes. That is the idea, and that is also the idea in the procedure that is also set forth for

electing the members of the Central Committee at the congress. In the case of the Central Committee, the provincial assemblies will provide a pool only. The members of the Central Committee are not going to be elected by the provincial assemblies. They will continue to be pre-candidates at the congress. About 500 will be elected at the provincial level, including at the conferences in the Revolutinary Armed Forces and the Ministry of the Interior. There will be a pool of about 500 comrades. These will be added to the current members of the Central Committee, who are also considered part of the pool, the members of the congress organizing commission, and some other comrades to form a large pool of about 1,000 candidates from which the congress organizing commission will propose a list of candidates to the congress. The congress will then elect the Central Committee in the way I explained above.

[Barredo] Very good. Well, I do not have time for more. I want to thank you for your participation, and thank you listeners for your attention and tell you the following. With this program we have concluded this series of "In Our Own Voice" until September, because the Pan-American Games are going to start and this network is the voice of the Pan-American Games. With the vacation period, the Pan-American Games, and the agricultural activities.... [rephrases] To mark International Journalists Day, we journalists intend to go for two weeks to an agricultural camp in Havana Province, so in any case, at the end of August or the beginning of September we will see you again on "In Our Own Voice."

Havana Notes 'Impoverishment' of East Europe

FL2607012891 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] Many years ago, theorists of international politics divided the world into three parts: the First World, or the developed capitalist countries; the Second World, the countries or what was the Socialist bloc; and the so-called Third World, the developing nations, or underdeveloped nations, if we talk without euphemisms. Some even spoke about the existence of a Fourth World, which includes those countries with marginal economies, the most backwards in the world.

Recently, some sociologists and economists have spoken about the impoverishment or the Latin Americanization of East Europe since the changes that have taken place in those countries. The images you see on the screen seem to confirm this assertion; they are from Poland. The changes that have occurred within Polish society have resulted in a large number of people being left without homes or jobs, which has forced them to seek a means of subsistence very typical of the Third World: living in garbage dumps. By an irony of economics, these people who perhaps at one time hoped to live in the First World now survive under Third World conditions, with all their consequences.

Barbados

Economy Declined 4 Percent in Last Six Months

FL2407215391 Bridgetown CANA in English 2010 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Report by Colin King]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 24, CANA—The Barbados economy, targeted for an International Monetary Fund (IMF)-endorsed structural adjustment programme by the end of August, declined four percent in the first six months of this year.

"Economic activity during the first six months of 1991 fell about four percent below the level for the same period in 1990. Output in sugar, tourism, and construction declined sharply, while manufacturing stagnated," the Central Bank reported Wednesday in its half yearly review of the economy.

Wholesale and retail sector activity grew as imports rose an estimated 10 percent. Further balance of payments deterioration saw the island's international reserves fall Bds53 million dollars (one Barbados dollar = 50 U.S. cents), compared with a five million dollar "very disappointing" [words indistinct] and indicated wage cuts, higher interest rates, and import curbs are possible elements of the government's coming adjustment programme. He said renewed growth is not expected before 1993, by which time adjustment measures already started and others being finalised with the assistance of an IMF team now here, should produce benefits.

"The discussions have gone well and we now have the outline of a basic programme," King told journalists at a news conference. He declined to elaborate on the nature of the programme, saying the IMF team is ending its three-week exercise this week, and that an agreement should be concluded by the end of August. He said, however, that "a devaluation is not contemplated in this package," adding, however, that the country has "in the near future to slow down the outflow of foreign exchange." The Central Bank board is meeting Thursday and will likely make decisions on exchange conservation measures, he added.

According to King, of the available options for restricting the outflow of foreign exchange, fiscal deficit measures have already been tried and will continue, interest rate changes will get "probably serious consideration," as liquidity in the banking system has not been "encouraging," and credit restrictions, in place since late 1989, "will probably remain."

The Central Bank governor said the fact of the uncompetitiveness of the country's exports needs also to be addressed, and since a devaluation is not contemplated, the need for reduced costs means "some kind of cut in wages will be necessary." The Central Bank said an anticipated decline in overall output in the economy as a result of the proposed adjustment measures "is the price

that must be paid to restore balanced external payments and remove the threat of currency depreciation." According to King, the progamme, devised with the help of the IMF, could be an initial 18-month programme, with a possible further 18 months if the desired aims are not achieved.

"The measures go far enough...we have not left out anything... We have not watered down the programme to the level where it cannot achieve its objectives...it is a good programme, it is a tough programme, it is a fair programme," King said. The bank governor said the authorities hope that in seeking balance in the economy at a lower level of output, "we do not lose any of the productive enterprises."

"There will be some contraction in the government sector. There has to be," he said, adding that there will hopefully be contraction in foreign exchange-using areas and expansion in foreign exchange earning areas. King identified some particularly worrying aspects of the economic performance of the six-month period, pointing to a 45 percent drop in production of food crops as "a very, very dangerous signal" which could see the country spending even more on food imports if not corrected. He also said the increase already seen in imports could be linked to distributors stocking excess amounts of commodities in the light of speculation about an imminent devaluation of the Barbados dollar.

"This is very, very unfortunate and just makes matters worse," King said. Among the actual performance figures reported by the Central Bank are sugar declining 4.8 percent below 1990 to a record low of 65,670 tonnes, tourism recording an estimated nine percent decline in value added with total stay-over visits down by 8.5 percent, and manufacturing growing by less than one percent or the same level as last year,with the garment sector contracting 33 percent, compensated by "substantial" growth in food, beverages, and tobacco. Distribution grew by five percent, and production of petroleum and natural gas "continued to rise in line with official policy," the bank reported. Public finances showed "some improvement when compared to the same period last year", with current revenue rising 10.6 percent, and a fiscal deficit of 85 million dollars, financed "mainly from foreign sources."

"The external current account, which was in surplus by 77 million dollars a year ago, realised a small deficit." The bank said the money supply grew by 41 million dollars, or by only one-third the amount recorded in the first half of last year, reflecting "the combined effects of the contraction in economic activity and speculation arising from the uncertainty over the exchange rate."

"Credit to government grew only a little, but there was a rapid expansion in lending to the private sector. Moreover, a substantial share of this credit has been absorbed by the distribution sector to finance the accumulation of stocks," the bank said. "The outlook is clouded by weakness of the balance of payments. Government will take measures to dampen expenditures bacause of the low earnings from tourism and sugar exports."

"Efforts are already underway to reduce government expenditure by seven percent of the budgeted amount and additional fiscal adjustment will almost certainly be needed. With the expected fall in disposable income, short-term prospects for construction and wholesale and retail activity are not encouraging," the bank said.

The bank also concluded that measures must be taken to boost tourism, export agriculture, information processing, international business services, and export manufacturing "so as to provide a foundation for growth with a stable balance of payments."

Dominican Republic

Commentary Supports Repatriation of Haitians

FL2407141491 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Station commentary: "Haitian Repatriations, a Short Summary"]

[Text] The constitutional government has rightfully sustained its final decision of repatriating thousands of Haitian nationals illegally living in the Dominican Republic. Although this has encouraged criticism, sometimes justified, it should be noted that the way in which the official order has been implemented—let the truth be known—that there has been a better atmosphere since the beginning of the actions.

Certainly, the presence of thousands of Haitians in Santo Domingo, Santiago, San Cristobal, Mao, without mentioning the semi-populated cane area centers, had changed its Dominican facade. Now, with the forced exodus of the Haitian population, the Dominican air that always characterized our towns and country can once again be breathed. This was the extent of the invasion without weapons.

Of course, on the other side of the border, where a mediated government is debating between the besieging of the populace and the severe criticism of the leading groups, other bells need to be heard. Here we talk of sovereignty and respect, of compliance with the substantive law, of just defense of the authocthonous values. There there is excess, abuses, and prejudice. Here we talk about the sacred obligation of safeguarding the national interest, of our necessary devotion to the essence of the Dominican being. There, our honorable effort and just cause is being shirked.

The only truth is that the ruling constitutional administration has cautiously moved forward, has acted with skill, by producing an action which its results can only be properly described after the passage of time. The repatriations are no more and no less the recovery of the

Dominican national sense, the return of beautiful traditions about to be lost under foreign empires. The decision should be maintained. Repatriations should continue. May the decision bring again the complete distinction of neighborhoods and towns where a foreign and dangerous hegemony had been established.

An applause to a patriotic decision. Let us save our nationalistic essence. The cleaning up is needed and should continue.

Haiti

Jean-Rabel Massacre Fourth Anniversary

Aristide Delivers Speech

FL2407120991 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1715 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Speech by President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the Jean-Rabel Massacre on 23 July at the National Palace in Port-au-Prince—live]

[Text] Brothers and sisters of mine in the 10 departments: As usual, I greet you wholeheartedly as an avalanche. Four years ago today, on 23 July, 139 little peasants died in Jean-Rabel. We Haitians, in and out of the country, cannot forget these peasants and all the other peasants who have died in massacres so the country could be free. Today, when we remember them, we come to think about a peasant's life. We come together to bring consolation to the parents of the victims. We come in force so that we who have created this second independence can join together with all peasants so we can solve the problem of the country's high cost of living, to put an end to injustice, and to make the country more equitable.

On that score, in 1950, 87.75 percent of all Haitians lived in the countryside. In 1971, 79.61 percent of Haitians lived in the countryside. In 1990, 70.38 percent lived in the countryside. The first thing we note is that between 1950 and 1991, more and more people moved to the cities. If we investigate further, we note that the countryside is stricken by poverty; stricken by misfortune. They [not further identified] plotted to destroy the peasants' pigs [pigs represented the peasants' entire wealth].

The more poverty grows in the countryside, the more peasants move to towns. Then they leave the towns and move to the cities. They leave the cities and move to the capital. People continue to leave the countryside. Those who stay in the countryside, the little peasants, are always the majority. But they have no land, they have no money. Approximately how much money does a peasant earn each year? Almost nothing. Ninety-two percent of peasants living in the countryside earn barely $150 to $240 a year. There are others who have only heard of money. They have never seen it at all. In reality, most of the population lives in the countryside without money.

It follows that they do not have money because they do not have land, even though it is they who work the land. They work, while the fruit of their labor is enjoyed by others. Fifty percent of these peasants who are selling their labor have only half a carreau [1.6 acre] of land, to scrape with their nails, and to water with the sweat running down their bodies, while the saddle of injustice sits on their backs and flays them. The person sitting in the saddle does not even realize that life is so rich for him because of the sweet taste of peasants' blood in his mouth.

Twenty percent of these peasants who are also unfortunate, and even poorer than the 50 percent, can scrape just half a carreau of land. Nevertheless, Dessalines died so peasants could have land. Many battles were fought so peasants could have land. Until now, those who worked the land for wealthy people.... [break in transmission]. In Jean-Rabel, four families own.... [break in transmission] the lands. Listen well to what I am saying. You, my brothers and sisters in the country, you, my brothers and sisters in the 10th Department [Haitians living abroad], all of you Haitians, listen well to what I am saying. In Jean-Rabel, four families own about 80 percent of the land. It is 1991. We have created our first independence since 1804. Do you understand this situation? Can you imagine what this means in terms of social justice?

Four years ago today, 139 peasants were hacked to death with machetes. They were murdered because they were organizing to find land to cultivate, because they were making the slogan on our flag, Unity is strength, a reality; because they were creating an avalanche, heads together.

The state's lands. What does the state say on this matter? Does the state own lands? How does the state organize its lands? If we read the Constitution, before we suggest what the state can do with its lands, Article 248.1 says that the law fixes the amount of land that a person or a group of people cultivating land is allowed to possess. Is it the law that allows four families to own 80 percent of the land in Jean-Rabel for? The law also fixes the minimum amount of land that a person or a group of people cultivating land must have. Is it the law which says that your mother, living in misery and suffering, can have no land to work? Is it the law that says your father, who has been slaving away since the mists of time for rich people, can have no land? Is it this same law that gives the right to slaughter 139 peasants because they were asking for what belonged to them.

Does the state own so much land without doing anything with it? According to some statistics, although they are not quite updated, in Haiti, the state owns 200,000 square-lands [as heard]. What does the state do with all this land?

If we look at Artibonite, I would say this is the region where the state holds the most land to cultivate. What does the state do with it? The Agricultural Department,

through Damien, supposedly has about 20,000 square-lands where farming is allegedly undertaken, meaning large plantations or breeding farms. Who benefits? What is done with it? Is this state a cow, with its udders always full of milk for rich people to draw from, while poor people watch with their mouths watering? Is this state like a mother with two breasts, one giving sweet milk, the other giving sour: sweet milk for the rich, and sour milk for the poor. What kind of state is this, to have so much land, and so many people living without land?

The Constitution mandates the state, in Article 248, to set up an office for executing land reforms. Peasants died in Jean-Rabel because the land reform had not been accomplished. On 7 February, we said we created a lavalas [avalanche], heads together, to achieve a second independence. We said we had a political revolution to create a social revolution. We said we performed a marriage between the Army and the Haitian people. We said we raised our proud flag to keep the boiler from boiling on only one side; so poor people could stop slaving for rich people to enjoy. We said democracy equals justice; democracy equals freedom; democracy equals love. We said so many things. We said justice; we said participation; we said clarity. We said so many things. We said respect. So many things were said. How much have we done? What have we done? We have done a great deal comparing our current state with the state of corruption we inherited.

What have we done about land reforms? If we have been in power for five months, since 7 February, it is humiliating, it is outrageous, it is staggering that only one of the assassins responsible for slaughtering 139 poor peasants in Jean-Rabel is in jail. Why is there only one person? Why are the other slaughterers free? It is outrageous, it is staggering, it is humiliating when, despite the fact that only one is in jail, you hear people praying. I do not know to what god they are praying. Is it the god of injustice for this person to be freed, to celebrate with other assassins? He should be praying so the grace of lavalas justice overflows to clean up the justice machine which is corrupt.

Too many judges are still swimming in corruption. Too many government prosecutors are still swimming in corruption. Too many lawyers are still swimming in corruption. They are swimming in so much corruption that they almost drown in corruption. This is exactly the reason why four years after, five months after, four months after the first massacre, five months after the second independence, only one of these people is in jail. Is it the state of the law that assassins continue to freely move around? Is it the state of the law that issues licenses to people who have committed crimes to escape justice?

I wanted to wait until today to say what I am saying here today so that each democrat who is conscious can understand how important it is to look after our democracy so that a state of law can become a reality that brings justice to everybody, to each Haitian, so assassins who have committed crimes will not be able to keep hatching small plots, new plots, large plots, coups, or molotov cocktails. You hear that in Arcahaie they are holding meetings every night. In Petit-Goave you see them grouped together preparing plots to hinder the 29 July trial of Roger Lafontant. When a round-up of police catches two of them, the so-called civil authorities, assigned to administer justice under the law, order them to be released. And you ask: How can you say the arrest is illegal, that it occurred after 0600, when you know it occurred before 0600? And you get this answer: Excellency, it was under pressure that I wrote this order. What pressure? The macoutes said they would cut off my head.

Can macoutes still intimidate you so much that they can make you write an illegal order that you call legal? Even after 7 February while they were organizing their own plot to destroy what you have created? It is not a state of law that requires this. It is a state of cowardice. It is an act of cowardice to let yourself be intimidated by macoutes instead of doing your duty in demanding a legal arrest when it is legal, in demanding the arrest of people who have committed crimes. Only then will you look after your state of law, only then will you protect it, water it with the sweat of justice so it can grow up.

Today, on the occasion of the anniversary of this massacre, in that you have mandated me to establish a state of law, a country where each person respects other's rights, I am here to tell you: Do not allow macoutes to intimidate you; demand your rights.

Peasants, organize to demand justice because if people who are in charge of arresting criminals do not do so, we will have them arrested by law. We always say so. Today, we say so because those who are in public administration and are mandated to make reforms under the Constitution, but are acting cowardly or as accomplices, know very well what I am talking about. They caress the cases of thieves. They pamper thieves. They say they do not have sufficient proof, while the file is heavy in their hands. Meanwhile, you ask yourself: Are they cowards, or are they accomplices? From now on, that is over. On behalf of the Haitian people, who are tired of letting thieves devour what belongs to them, there are taxes to be paid. I will give you until the end of July to have those thieves arrested by law. If you do not do so, I, on behalf of the Haitian people, will denounce you so the rope falls around your necks. That is the reason why the people have chosen me as president. It is my duty that I will fulfill when I do it. I gave you enough time to do your work.

Today, I stand on behalf of the Haitian people so that all accomplices of thieves are found in prison when I find out about them in public administration, especially the directors. We will dismiss some; but we will arrest some for their cowardice and for being accomplices.

If the DGI [tax office] hands over its approximate $21.5 million a month, multiplied by 12, this will be exactly $258 million. If Customs gives its estimated $6.9 million

per month, multiplied by 12, this would be $82.8 million. DGI and Customs together would provide $340.8 million in revenue. When this money goes to the state, it will almost be equal to the money that we collect in aid from the friendly countries, or those which pretend to be our friends by saying they will provide support. This means that at the same time we are opening the door to international cooperation, we must also stand up on behalf of the law so that thieves who aid other thieves can no longer do so. From now on, DGI will provide the money it is supposed to collect. Customs will contribute the money it is meant to give, so there will be money to create jobs so the unemployed can stop living in the streets. The peasants can stop leaving the countryside and put an endto their unfortunate circumstances. They need tools and fertilizers to work. It is indeed this money that could buy fertilizers and tools for the peasants.

Each state employee, beginning with me, must be a servant to his work so we can guarantee that state money is invested in the peasant, who is the engine for change. I said it on 7 February, and I am saying it again today, [pounds his desk, showing anger]: Potatoes do not grow in state offices. Bananas do not grow in the president's office. Corn and rice do not grow in the National Palace. It is in the peasants' yards, when they have no land, where their sweat waters the plants. It is the water from the source that must water the land.

Today, I speak to the conscience of all agronomists, all engineers, all the country's sons who have a responsibility so they can remember how hard poverty is but that we can fight it. We will best fight it when everybody takes his responsibility. May the government that is anticipating 29 July while knowing how corrupt the justice system is be up to it and take all necessary measures so that the Lafontant trial scheduled for 29 July [anniversary of the creation of the Corps of Tontons Macoutes in 1959 by then President Francois Duvalier] can take place despite crooked wheeling and dealing and plots being formed to prevent this trial from taking place. [pounds desk, appears angry]

If the Lafontant trial does not take place on 29 July in the name of the law because Roger Lafontant and his accomplices were clearly found guilty of the failed coup of 6-7 January; if this trial does not take place on 29 July, the law will do what has to be done. A word to the wise is enough! I call God to witness, he knows. [preceding two sentences in French] He knows my efforts. He knows how much the government has attempted to respect and remains respecting the justice system while refusing to allow the crooked wheeling and dealing of the past to continue to occur. [preceding sentence in French] This is what has given us the 29 July calendar for the trial of Roger Lafontant. [sentence as heard] This is one of the reasons for my presence here today, on the people's chair so that I could say in the name of the people that on 29 July I will watch with the people to see if the trial will occur or not. It must, in the name of the law. [pounds desk] A word to the wise is enough! [preceding sentence in French] Within the scope of this justice which does not allow clemency, we will show all our friendly countries that were pleased on 7 February that we know what our national prestige means. We stood up with all our dignity, we created an avalanche throughout the whole country, we cleaned up the country. On 29 July, we will clean it up again with the broom of justice in our hands. This means that it is not only the macoute trial that will take place on 29 July. Everywhere in the country civil authorities must take their responsibilities together with the people so that no one's son will be a victim of macoutes again. I speak to all macoutes who are showing arrogance by forming little cliques, by hatching plots here and there in order to attempt a coup even though they know they will not be able to assume the presidency. They are only hoping to spoil the food as they cannot eat it. Well, we tell them, rather, I tell them: The power which guides me and which opens the eyes of the sighted still continues to enlighten me. May those who want to understand, understand! I am sorry for those who do not want to understand. You may shoot at me, but if you are caught, that is your business. You may hatch plots, you may set traps, but if you are caught, it is still your business. You have already been caught and you will still be caught because you are prompted by some evil. This means you may continue because I am pleased with that. It is exactly this evil that comes from the power to make us track down all macoutes who hide and who now think they can reappear. Well, go ahead, reappear so we can catch you. [audience laughs and applauds]

If you remain quiet as required by the Constitution in Article 291 [prohibiting macoutes from holding state service or being elected for 10 years] you are then lucky. I am your president, too. This means I need you, provided that you are in compliance with the law because it is the law that allows us to go forward. But if you do not comply, I am sorry for you. You will then get what you deserve. That will not be my fault. Look at the marriage between the Army and the civilians and if you want to understand you will understand. The power has just begun working. Remember how recently this very power showed itself through a dove. You saw with your own eyes that it flew and came down on the Army's head. [during the 5 July 1991 Venezuela Independence Day parade Aristide released three doves and one came down on the head of a soldier]. If you wish to understand, understand. If you do not wish to understand, I am sorry for you. Evil will make you continue to move until you throw yourselves at our feet.

Starting on 29 July there will be a trial in the name of the law, there will be a cleanup in the country in accordance with the law so that henceforth I hear no Haitian complaining that macoutes are frightening them, etc. If you are cowardly, go hide under your bed. But if you are brave, stand in front of the macoute to see if he will do to you what he can not do to you. When you get together, you are powerful. When make you make a solid avalanche, you are powerful. Do not wait for the corrupt justice machine to arrest more people in Jean-Rabel. It is up to you to talk to the civil authority so he can hear you.

Organize yourselves to talk to him until you lodge complaints and he does his duty in accordance with the law and military men help. There are works being done on that score in Artibonite. I encourage you to fulfill your responsibilities in order to move forward so there will be no bloodshed related to land conflicts.

Finally, there are some measures that we will announce today in memory of these 139 poor peasants who fell four years ago. They did not not how to speak French. They spoke in Creole, just like any good Haitian, like any Creole son. Thus, the first measure that we will announce in their name and in the name of all other peasants who did not know how to speak French and who have fallen—as the Constitution acknowledges that the country has two languages, French and Creole—the government has decided to announce that from now on in all state offices, in all public administration offices, all papers must be officially written in both languages, French and Creole. All ministers, all state employees, all people working in the government must be able to know how to write and to read Creole correctly.

It shows a lack of respect when you are administering the affairs of people who speak Creole while you do not make efforts to learn how to write and to read Creole. This way, we look like brothers and sisters who respect one another, who respect one anothers' language. I respect all languages. We like to learn many languages. This [referring to an unidentified document] is written in English. It was published last December. It is not even in Creole yet. It is not even in French yet. It is in English because the first work came up partially in English, in French and Creole. Someone has picked it all up and translated it into English. What can I say about that? Well, it is an expression of the respect that I have for the English language just like I have respect for all other languages. It was published last December in English. It is a best-seller. It has already been edited three times.

That means that the first and second editions were sold out completely and the third edition is almost completely sold out. All of that is to say, at the Port-au-Prince airport, why does the sign read gate? What does gate mean? It must be written in Creole. If it is written in English, it is just a courtesy. It is, first, respectful that it be written in Creole and in French. Further, if it is written in English and Spanish or as many other languages as desired, it is fine.

Are the ministers responsible for such a job? Yes they are. Are the children of the masses to watch for the job to be done? Yes. From now on, every Haitian should verify if what is written on the street is written in French and in Creole, to see if the papers in the minister's hands are in Creole and in French. If it is not so, to find the minister in charge of the administration and go to a radio and ask him questions, or remind him or tell him, because each minister is responsible for his own region.

In the same way, I am inviting all the young people, who just held a great congress, to continue to organize themselves. For each delegate in the nine departments, along with the organizations of youth, to set up a congress like the one that just took place before 7 August. Since the tenth department, through VOAM [organization of Haitians abroad], since you, the TKLs [expansion unknown], you the poor people, and all the vendors on the streets, gave money in collections, we will give to each delegate $3000 [15,000 gourdes] so that you youth and your delegate organize a congress on learning how to read and write Creole very quickly so that you can soon make your contribution.

I am talking to you young people who participated in the congress in Port-au-Prince, if you go on vacation, you will go offer your contribution in your region and if you were not in Port-au-Prince, it is not a problem. Wherever you are, in your department, you are interested in the Creole language, speak with your delegate, and along with him, organize a one or two day congress. The $3000 is to pay the expenses, so that not only the people from the town come, so that people will come from some other communes and rural sections, so that they find transportation. Then we will decide on when, where and how you will learn how to read and write Creole quickly in order to help writing everything in French and Creole. This is before the sixth month of our second independence. It is not something complicated.

It is possible. What young people want to do, they do. It is a challenge. We can follow their example, get on with it. Even though you will not have become a strong force by 7 August [deadline for public administration reforms allowed the government by the Constitution], at least you will have had time to begin. I know you can make a start before 7 August. I encourage you to begin. Congresses should begin in each geographical department by 7 February, since you have come to terms with the delegates of each department. There are funds available to cover the cost of transportation and meeting expenses.

It is for this same reason that you young people who are undergoing philosophy exams, marking the end of your secondary studies, have scheduled a national meeting at the Ranch [former Jean-Claude Duvalier's property] on August 4. The meeting will be held on the property used as a university building and will be for the purpose of proposing ideas for the literacy campaign. Funds are available for this purpose. The money is for you to use to organize and to learn how to read Creole so that you may participate in the literacy campaign. The National Literacy Office will help us coordinate our efforts, but we must not wait for the office to do that. In each department, we must begin to show that we have funds available, even though they are not much, and that we will use them to do the work. The program has already begun with the Damien congress. It will continue with the departmental congresses. On 4 August we will hold a large national gathering. Programs on 5 and 6 August will lead up to our six-month aniversary on 7 August. All

this will be your responsibility. You who are now undergoing your baccalaureate exams; you are the sons of peasants. When your exams are over—I take this opportunity to wish you good luck—use your experience, your competency. Participate with young people like yourselves so that the mobilization that existed before 16 December can occur again, so that the organization which is essential for our social revolution can continue in such a way that the entire world, which is glad to help us establish democracy and have it go smoothly, can rejoice to see how we, the young people, sons of peasants, remember those who fell and empathize with those who live in honor and respect for our country, in honor and respect for the young people who are sons of peasants.

May all Haitians, together without distinction, may all Haitians, without distinction, help one another, hold one another's hands and move together so that we may help our country better itself, walk hand in hand, in memory of the peasants who have fallen. The blood of poor peasants has flowed on the floor so poor peasants do not remain on the floor. This is what we have to say on the fourth anniversary of the Jean-Rabel massacre when we erect the Marchaterre in Les Cayes.

On this fourth anniversary we repeat so it can become a reality: The blood of poor peasants has flowed on the floor so poor peasants do not remain on the floor. Let us prove it, let us demonstrate it. Alone we are weak; together we are strong; tightly united we are an avalanche. Thank you.

OVAT Supports Aristide Position

FL2507223491 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Operation Storm Wind [OVAT] officials support the president's position as outlined in his speech of 23 July commemorating the fourth anniversary of the peasant massacre in Jean-Rabel. In his speech, the president spoke of social justice, reforms in public administration, and the trial of Roger Lafontant, which must take place on 29 July.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified OVAT official] We heard the statements President Aristide made about demacoutization. We received this statement with a thunder of applause because we see he has agreed with us in all we were demanding. We have therefore come to Radio Soleil today to express our support of the president's statements, and to ask all citizens to gather in front of the law courts very early Monday morning to determine how we shall put an end to macoute power. After we have finished trying the macoute leader, we will know that we have forced the macoutes out [preceding word in English]. This is the reason why we have come to Radio Soleil today.

[Jean-Auguste Mesyeux] Contrary to what a number of sectors say, there is a blatant contradiction between the spectacular speech, statements, and protests made, and what the people are saying. This is the same contradiction that exists between the executive head and the prime minister. Let us remember that the prime minister has said that there are no longer any macoutes, there are no zenglendos, there are no blackouts, so what are we seeing today? Let us not waste anymore time on that. [passage omitted]

He [President Aristide] has agreed with everything we are saying. Do not forget that last week counterdemonstrations were held against us. They said that we are working for Balaguer, that we are with the CIA [preceding acronym in English], that we are working for Bazin, that we are working for De Ronceray. Today we realize that lies do not last long, that only truth lasts long. This is why we have come to Radio Soleil today—to say that we are in solidarity with Father Jean-Bertrand's demacoutization of public administration.

We had asked that macoutes be apprehended. He said if a director of administration does not want to apprehend macoutes, either because of complicity or because of cowardice, he himself will then be tied with the same rope. [passage omitted] It is because of these statements by Jean-Bertrand Aristide that can say that the political, economic, and social revolution began yesterday, 23 July.

[Unidentified OVAT official] I would like to add that Preval must be removed. He must be removed from government so this social revolution can become a reality. We still hold the same opinion: Preval must go, so the country can progress. [end recording]

Ministers Pledge Justice

FL2507212891 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Rene Preval stated, on the fourth anniversary of the Jean-Rabel massacre, that if justice has not yet been achieved, it is because it takes time for the government to unravel the plots that are being hatched by the reactionary forces. But the current government is committed, he said, to dispensing justice to all those who deserve justice, especially in Jean-Rabel where more than 100 peasants were killed by wealthy landowners and reactionary sectors of the Army.

Justice Minister Karl Auguste asserted on the same occasion that everyone, rich or poor, who participated in the massacre will be arrested and sentenced in accordance with the law.

The minister of agriculture announced that 3.5 million gourdes will be released for the creation of jobs. Our ancestors died and bequeathed the land to us, said Minister Sevrin. We will not allow a small group of people to take all of it for themselves. We have rights, too. [passage omitted]

Court Ready for Lafontant, Accomplices Trial

FL2507210091 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Excerpt] According to the doyen of the Port-au-Prince civil court, lawyer Arnold Charles, all conditions have been met for the 29 July trial of Roger Lafontant and over 20 other accomplices of the 6-7 January coup attempt. Charles also announces that Serge Beaulieu and Marjorie Robeants will not appear in court Monday because they have appealed for a suspension, although they will be tried if justice so requires.

To date, no lawyer has been willing to accept the case for Lafontant's defense, so the president of the Bar will take appropriate measures in this matter.

Lawyer Charles does not agree with the president's opinion that the judges are making crooked deals to prevent the trial from taking place. [passage omitted]

Former Economy Minister Banned From Traveling

FL2507193291 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Leonce Thelusma, former minister of the economy, is banned from leaving the country. In December, 1988, Leonce Thelusma had guaranteed a loan of 2,500,000 gourdes from the Central Bank. The loan request had been made by the minister of information at the time, Antony Virginie Saint-Pierre, who is currently imprisoned at the national penitentiary. An administrative investigation regarding this case is currently being conducted.

OAS Delegation To Debate Repatriation Crisis

FL2207203591 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 19 Jul 1991

[Text] An OAS delegation will arrive in Port-au-Prince Monday evening in response to a request by government officials for OAS intervention in the crisis of repatriation of Haitians from the Dominican Republic. The OAS mission will listen to the Haitian Government's position on the problem. The delegation will be composed of Irene Camara, subchief of the cabinet of OAS Secretary General Jorge Barbosa; and Jorge Luis Estrego, advisor to Secretary General Jorge Baina Suarez. The OAS delegation, arriving Monday, will spend three days meeting with government officials on the question of the Haitian braceros [cane cutters]. The delegation will leave Thursday.

Meanwhile, the repatriation of Haitians from the Dominican Republic continues, and will continue, according to Dominican Secretary Joaquin Ricardo. He specifies however, that his government is willing to begin discussion with his Haitian counterpart regarding the repatriation and other problems, specifically relations between the two countries.

The head of Dominican diplomacy reiterated his government's sovereign right to repatriate foreigners without consulting the country of origin. The Dominican minister indicated that there are other issues which deserve bilateral discussion, citing the necessity for regulation of trade between Haiti and the Dominican Republic; the migratory flux on both sides of the frontier; and development of the frontier zone.

The Dominican minister of Foreign Affairs admits that communication is already underway between the two governments, but refused to reveal the level of these talks. He also denied the possibility of an immediate meeting between the Haitian and Dominican delegations. According to statistics from the Dominican chancellor, 2,000 Haitians have so far been repatriated, while 10,000 others voluntarily returned to Haiti.

MIDH Criticizes Government for Floating Gourde

FL2407141991 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1500 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Today, Marc Bazin of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti [MIDH] severely criticized the government's decision to soon allow the floating of the national currency, the gourde in relation to the U.S. dollar. We remind you that Mrs. Marie-Michele Rey, Haitian minister of economy and finances, recently announced that the gourde would become a floating currency, totally uncontrolled by the dollar, beginning in October.

Calling this decision a devaluation, Marc Bazin protests the fact that it was decided without explanations or debate in the press or at Parliament. According to Bizan, its immediate effects will be discouraging investment and aggravating unemployment. He adds that in the face of the continuous erosion of the gourde, the government acknowledges its lack of power and apparently gives up the hope to have it return to a rate of five to one, in relation to the dollar.

Bazin feels that President Aristide is doing the opposite of what he had promised. Wondering whether this policy is compatible with Father Aristide's promises, he notes that, contrary to the previous statements, the government has thoroughly embarked on the hunt for foreign help. He asserts that the IMF that was even recently held up to ridicule under the name of the Hypocritical Evildoers Funds [Fon Malfaiteurs Ipokrit] has become accepted as an inevitable route.

Manufacturing Jobs Decline in Past 9 Months

FL2507202391 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Excerpts] According to the Association of Haitian Manufacturers [ADIH], around 8,120 assembly jobs have been lost over the past nine months. ADIH is sounding an alarm about the future of the Haitian manufacturing industry. Exports from Haiti to the United States

declined by nine percent, or $339.2 million, in 1990, while exports from Guatemala, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and Honduras have respectively increased by 81, 28, 21, and 11 percent.

The employers' association points out that the comparative advantage Haiti had enjoyed has gradually disappeared. ADIH believes that lack of interest in the assembly sector, the absence of concrete measures to improve the investment atmosphere, and increase in production costs have discouraged contractors, to the relative benefit of the country's competitors. [passage omitted]

According to ADIH, establishing the minimum wage at 24 gourdes [$3.69], a proposal which is now before Parliament, would place Haiti in the top salary sector for assembly workers in the region, ahead of the Dominican Republic at $3.43, and Jamaica, at $2.92. Predicting the further loss of 6,000 jobs by October, ADIH feels that Haiti will face, following the salary increase, an even stronger deterioration of its competitive situation, with the immediate result of increased unemployment.

Jamaica

Nassau Radio Reports on Mandela Visit

FL2507174691 Nassau Bahamas Radio Network in English 1705 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] While in Jamaica yesterday the leader of the African National Congress, Dr. Nelson Mandela, predicted that freedom in his native homeland will soon be a reality. We get more from our correspondent.

[Begin correspondent recording] The president of the African National Congress [ANC] stated last night that true freedom in South Afrcia will become a reality in his lifetime. The statement brought a thunderous applause from the more than [word indictinct] thousand who packed the national stadium to see and hear, and to witness the conferring of the highest Jamaican honor, on the 73- year-old leader. Saying the day was the happiest in his life, Dr. Mandela urged Jamaicans to continue to hold hands with their brothers and sisters in South Africa in the struggle for freedom.

His remarks fortified his speech to a joint session of Parliament earlier in the day when the Prime Minister and Lady Pindling were among those in Parliament House to hear from Dr. Mandela a report on the current state of affairs in South Africa. While the ANC president believed the path to freedom is now irreversible he said, as shown by the F.W. De Klerk [word indistinct] of violence, we can not as yet take it for granted that apartheid will go down without a fight. Nor can we assume that the destruction of apartheid, he said, when it does occur will mean the birth of a truly democractic South Africa, a South Africa in which all citizens will have the right to vote without regard to race, color, creed or gender.

Dr. Mandela said it would therefore be dangerously premature for the international community to lift, as some have already done, the pressures, including sanctions. He said change in South Africa will only become truly profound and irreversible when all our people regardless of race, color, creed or sex will have won the right to vote. At that point, he said, and he emphasized that only at that point, will it be appropriate to lift sanctions. This is the message he said, we would like to see carried on the waves from the shores of this country to the four corners of the world.

Dr. Mandela and his wife Winnie, and the ten-member delegation, will leave Jamaica today for a four-day visit to Cuba. [end recording]

Trinidad and Tobago

Bilateral Cooperation Discussed With Venezuela

FL2607001191 Bridgetown CANA in English 1554 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, July 25, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela are to cooperate in several key areas, including health, illegal drug trafficking, fisheries, and energy, the government here has announced.

Delegations from the two countries, led by Trinidad and Tobago's External Affairs Minister Dr. Sahadeo Basdeo and Venezuelan External Relations Minister Dr. Armando Duran, held their first "high level talks" Tuesday on these areas and assessed the bilateral relations of both countries since initiatives were presented in April last year. Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez last year agreed on several bilateral issues of cooperation between the two countries.

"It was felt that Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela had initiated a number of cooperative efforts which were necessary to be monitored in order to identify problems and to look at ways to solve these problems in order to strengthen this cooperative efforts," Basdeo told journalists after the meeting.

Basdeo said it was hoped that within three months, medical personnel will begin training in open-heart surgery and other cardiac procedures at the Mount Hope Medical Complex here by Venezuelan doctors.

The meeting agreed that joint sea and air patrols are to be made more efficient and effective to curb the illegal drug trafficking between the two countries. In the area of fisheries, Basdeo said a fisheries technical seminar is to be held in Margarita next month where a new fishing agreement will be worked out between the two countries.

El Salvador

Parties Agree on Constitutional Reform Schedule

PA2607004091 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Report by Julio Ernesto Rodriguez]

[Excerpt] Yesterday afternoon the legislative factions of the Christian Democratic Party, Democratic Convergence, National Conciliation Party, Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), UDN [National Democratic Union], and MAC [Authentic Christian Movement] reached a political agreement on constitutional reforms. In general terms, the political agreement can be summarized as follows:

1. The parties decided to approve a new internal regulation for the Legislative Assembly prior to 30 September. We repeat, before 30 September, the Legislative Assembly should approve a new internal regulation, which will, of course, be discussed by all political factions.

2. The parties decided to ratify the constitutional reforms according to a schedule prepared by the legislative factions at yesterday's meeting. It can be summarized as follows [pauses, corrects himself]; it will be implemented in four rounds of discussion. The constitutional reforms will be approved in this order. First, the reforms on human rights will be approved and reviewed; second, the reforms on the electoral system; third, the reforms on the judicial system; and fourth and last, the reforms on the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

We repeat the schedule for the discussion and ratification of the reforms to the political constitution agreed to by the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front are as follows: First, the reforms on human rights; second, the reforms on the electoral system; third, the reforms on the judicial system; and fourth, the reforms on the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

3. The political factions in the Legislative Assembly agree to restructure the Political Commission of the Legislative Assembly.

4. The Legislative Assembly has decided to form a committee to study the special and secondary laws on the constitutional reforms, as follows: First, the judicial reforms; and second, the electoral reforms.

A special committee will be formed to study the regulations and secondary laws on the reforms made to the judicial system and electoral system.

5. A special committee will be formed to study the government's privatization program.

This is the political agreement reached yesterday afternoon by the five [pauses, corrects himself] six political factions represented in the Legislative Assembly.

It has been learned unofficially that this agreement will go into effect on 1 August. [passage omitted]

Commander on Latest Rebel Actions in Guazapa

PA2607030891 San Salvador TCS Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Report by Samuel Arias]

[Text] The commander of the Army's 1st Infantry Brigade has described the latest guerrilla actions as pure propaganda. Colonel Francisco Elena Fuentes said that the recent rebel attacks in and around the town of Guazapa are aimed at meeting one single objective—that is, to demonstrate that they still have a presence in the area.

The commander of the Army's 1st Infantry Brigade said that these are acts of propaganda by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in response to the Army operations that dismantled a camp that could hold approximately 300 guerrillas. Col. Fuentes said that this was a severe blow to the FMLN in Guazapa.

[Begin Col. Fuentes recording] They do not have fixed positions now, so they have to be moving around. That is the reason for doing something to make the news. What they do is they call up the press and then take over a town....[pauses] It is true that there are authorities in those towns, including the security corps. However, our units are out in the field, where we want everything to take place in order to avoid difficult situations with the civilian population. [end recording]

Regarding the criticism received over the alleged death of Commander Damian, which was later denied by that very guerrilla leader, Col. Fuentes stated that the communique that was issued never stated that any insurgent commander had died in armed clashes.

[Begin Col. Fuentes recording] As the same journalists have realized that we indeed displaced the rebels [from Guazapa], they are making propaganda stating that they are alive. There is another situation here, though. We never said that they were killed. We have reports that some of them were killed. [end recording]

Col. Fuentes reported that during the clashes in the Guazapa area, only two soldiers were killed and 18 wounded, while no casualties were reported on the side of the insurgents. A group of guerrillas reportedly tried to seize a stretch of the Northern Highway in Aguilares yesterday, but they were repelled by Army units.

Captain Killed Enroute to Comalapa Airport

PA2507155991 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Report by Ernesto Rivas]

[Text] An Army captain was assassinated this morning, presumably by guerrilla fighters who intercepted his

vehicle on the highway to Comalapa Airport. According to judicial reports, the captain was shot many times.

The attack on Captain Nestor Ariel Lang Romero occurred at approximately 0600 at km 23 on the highway to Comalapa. The officer's body was taken away minutes later by Army members, who carried it to the Armed Forces funeral house—which made it impossible for the judge to conduct the necessary inspection.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified judge] According to the information from neighbors who have been questioned, a roadblock was placed here. It seems that they were waiting for h'm. That is what we assume, but we do not know where the shots came from.

[Rivas] Do you know how many shots were fired?

[Judge] No. We were only able to count 30 bullet holes in the vehicle.

[Rivas] What caliber?

[Judge] AK-47, but [words indistinct].

[Rivas] Were you able to inspect the body?

[Judge] No. It had been taken to a funeral parlor by the time we arrived. I do not know where it was taken, but the body was not here by the time we arrived. [end recording]

The vehicle showed at least 40 [as heard] bullet holes—all of a heavy caliber. A military member said that M-16 and AK-47 shells were found on the spot. No further information was given about the officer when the media arrived. It is presumed that he was on leave from the Engineers Military Detachment, headquartered in Zacatecoluca. The vehicle he was driving, a silver Datsun, has private license plates, No. 29548. The FMLN's [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front claimed responsibility for the action this afternoon.

Regarding other violent actions, at approximately 0900, urban guerrilla commandos attacked 1st Infantry Brigade positions in the northern University neighborhood. It was reported that two soldiers were wounded as a result of this action; one sustained minor wounds and the other is in critical condition. Local residents have condemned the action because it endangers the lives of people who, in their own words, have nothing to do with the conflict.

Guatemala

Government, Guerrillas Sign Democratization Pact

PA2507230291 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2205 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Queretaro, 25 Jul (NOTIMEX)—The National Reconciliation Commission (CNR) announced that the Guatemalan Government and the guerrillas have signed an agreement here today on the democratization of the country. The country's democratization is the first point on the agenda of the negotiations to attain peace in that nation, the CNR added.

CNR President Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno and CNR member Mario Permuth told reporters that the agreement was signed this afternoon and that the participants in the negotiations are currently discussing the human rights situation in Guatemala.

The sources did not give the details of the agreement and said they would explain the points agreed on tonight.

Last April the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) and Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias agreed on an 11-point agenda to end more than 30 years of armed conflict in the country.

The parties started the third round of negotiations this year at a hotel in Queretaro, approximately 300 km from Mexico City. This round of negotiations will end on 26 July.

'Main Points' of Agreement

PA2607043391 Paris AFP in Spanish 0332 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] Queretaro, Mexico, 25 Jul (AFP)—The Guatemalan Government and guerrillas signed the Queretaro Agreement this Thursday, 25 July, on the need for a democratization in the search for peace by political means.

The agreement was reached on the fourth day of the third round of peace talks being held in the Mexican city of Queretaro.

The following are the main points of the four-point agreement:

I. The strengthening of a functional and participatory democracy requires:

The development of a democratic institutional life.

The effective functioning of a state of law.

The elimination once and for all of political repression, electoral fraud and impositions, military coups and pressures, as well as antidemocratic destabilizing actions.

Strict respect for human rights.

The subordination of the Armed Forces to civilian rule.

Recognition and respect for the identity and rights of Indian peoples.

II. Democratization requires the need to guarantee and promote the participation of civilian society in general in the drafting, implementation, and evaluation of the government policies in the different administrative levels.

III. To widely unfold the agreement before the Guatemalan people.

IV. The agreement will serve as a framework for the handling of the other topics under negotiation.

In Mexico City last April both sides decided to work on an 11- point agenda which includes, in addition to a democratization, topics on human rights, the army's role in a democracy, rights of the Indian peoples, constitutional reforms, and socioeconomic aspects.

It also included topics on the agriculture situation, resettlement of the homeless, incorporation of the guerrillas into a political life, cease-fire, verification of the agreements, and the signing of a firm and lasting peace agreement.

URNG Denies Receiving Cuban Assistance

PA2607034491 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1820 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Queretaro, 25 Jul (NOTIMEX)—The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] is not receiving any kind of assistance from Cuba, rebel leader Rolando Moran stated today.

In brief remarks to NOTIMEX, Moran, of the URNG General Command, denied the statements by Central American presidents that the Havana government is supporting "unconventional" groups in the region.

During the past Ibero-American Summit of heads of state and government held in Guadalajara, Jalisco State, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani reiterated the charges that Cuba is maintaining ties with the Central American guerrillas.

"There is nothing to it," Moran said in reply to the question of whether the URNG was receiving any kind of assistance from the Communist Party of Cuba.

The Guatemalan rebel also denied that his group is using Mexican territory to organize and move about, as Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias stated.

Secretary General of the Presidency Manuel Conde, who is heading the government delegation that is meeting with the URNG in Queretaro, northeast of Mexico City, said that the guerrillas are using the border area with Mexico for their movements.

Government and URNG delegates began a new round of talks on 22 July in an effort to establish the conditions to sign a strong and lasting peace agreement in this nation where a civil strife has been raging for 30 years.

Nicaragua

FSLN Congress Holds Closing Ceremony

Ortega Speech

PA2507212691 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0230 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Speech by Daniel Ortega at the closing ceremony of the First Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) Congress at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua—live]

[Text] [30-minute passage indistinct] We feel proud to be elected to important posts in the FSLN, but it is important for this pride be accompanied by humility, above all. It is also important for us to feel a little shame because, the truth is, we feel shame when we are elected to a post—a post we never dreamed of—like the presidency of the republic or the [FSLN's] general secretariat. We feel ashamed because, as Ernesto used to say in the inauguration ceremony, you must remember the dead when you are appointed to a post and when you hear the applause. We are here....[changes thought] we are not here for ourselves; we are here—let us admit it, comrades—because of the dead, our heroes and martyrs, those who gave everything so that Nicaragua would be free. [applause, shouts] These elections, this electoral process, is a new experience for Sandinism. It is an experience that enriches our history, but we must also say that it is a somewhat traumatic experience because it involves a new form of organization.

This must call on the attention of all of us, who have made the slogan of unity become the center slogan, so the results of this congress can truly strengthen unity in Sandinism. During the session to inaugurate the congress, we said there should be no winners or losers when it was time to participate in debates, when it was time to present proposals, and when it was time to cast our ballot. Instead, we had to nurture the conviction that the winner is the FSLN, the people, and the revolution.

The Sandinist Assembly elections have incorporated dozens of new comrades, but the elections also left out dozens of old comrades—comrades who wholeheartedly participated in the struggle against the Somozist dictatorship and comrades who wholeheartedly participated in the struggle against the imperialist aggression. Nevertheless, these comrades were not elected. The electoral results were close and the FSLN, which includes as many sectors as the Nicaraguan society....[changes thought] the election of Sandinist Assembly members certainly creates a lot of pressure.

The important thing is the spirit with which we worked in these elections. We must all reflect on the styles that prevailed in this electoral process. Why? To perfect future electoral processes so the electoral process of a revolutionary force is not misconstrued like the electoral process of a traditional party. We cannot fall into this kind of act. A Sandinist electoral process should be

carried out with a constructive spirit—never with a destructive spirit; it should allow for electoral results without creating resentment.

We must analyze the situation and see where we failed. We must improve our electoral mechanisms in the measure that an electoral result provokes dissatisfaction that goes beyond the normal measure. All our comrades who were members of a historical Sandinist Assembly and who have been left out of the new Sandinist Assembly; the comrades who were members of the [words indistinct]. We must guarantee the incorporation of thousands of technical and professional cadres who worked on the project of the revolution; we must guarantee the incorporation of these companeros in a continuous and very specific manner. The Sandinists must achieve a rapprochement with a fraternal spirit, to achieve our goal of unity.

Two points have been widely discussed by the media. We discussed them the day that the Congress was installed. These two points deal with how the National Directorate should be elected. There was a debate on the slate vote versus the vote for individuals. There are two trends of thought. The voting for individuals was the pattern that applied even to the Sandinist Assembly, but it did not apply to the National Directorate. Why? Is this antidemocratic? Will this harm the democratic effort being made within the FSLN?

We have discussed this issue. We have listened to the opinions of others. We have stated our opinions. The voting for individuals is good. If I were asked if I agree with voting for individuals, I would say: yes, I agree with voting for individual candidates. We discussed this issue and feel that the National Directorate should also be selected based on votes for individual candidates. A commitment I want to assume before you as FSLN secretary general is to work so that, in the next elections, the National Directorate can be elected by direct, secret, and individual vote. [applause] We explained that given the current political situation and the fact that the FSLN is entering a democratic process in this new phase, we did not want to run the risk of having many changes in the leadership. The problem has not been one of how to elect the directorate. The problem is more of a political and global nature, but the idea is not to stay where we are but to continue improving the FSLN democratic process.

Another widely discussed issue has to do with women. The National Directorate is composed of 10 male companeros. Why does it not include one or more female companeros? I do not want this to be viewed as a sign that the Sandinists are adopting conservative and macho positions because we have refused the entry of female companeros into the FSLN National Directorate.

Of course we are bothered by the fact that there is no woman in the directorate.

We cannot be pleased with the absence of women in the National Directorate. During this turbulent and controversial period, there was mention of female comrade Commander Dora Maria Tellez as a candidate for the National Directorate. She is a comrade who deserves our full respect, admiration, and affection. The problem we were truly facing, however, was that we felt that the National Directorate's role has become fundamental to guaranteeing the process of democratization within Sandinism. But this should not be the cause for any division or anarchy within Sandinism.

It was not a matter of whether a female comrade could become a member and another could not. In addition, some may ask why two new comrades have joined when the idea was to maintain the same National Directorate members for a period while the democratic process became consolidated. Then, in the next congress, these members would be more advanced in new leadership mechanisms and all that. Some may ask why two new male comrades are becoming members instead of two female comrades or one female and a male comrade.

Rene Nunez is a comrade who has been within the leadership as the National Directorate secretary. What we are doing with him is simply formalizing a de facto situation. Comrade Sergio has also always been closely working with the National Directorate. He heads the FSLN wing at the Assembly. Thus, we feel that, for the time being, we needed to choose the two members to cover the present stage to then open it for more members later on. However, the truth is that we have some doubts about that.

Yesterday, I was talking with our friends, members of the French Socialist Party, and they were saying that, in their most recent congress they tried to reduce their leadership to 12, 14, or 10; I do not know how many but they wound up with 30, including 14 females.

The truth is that, right now, we do not know how to organize the National Directorate. We will have to take this new situation into consideration. Our experience will show us which path to follow. We cannot follow other patterns. We are not going to say: Well, we are going to do just like our French socialist friends did. We are not going to do what another Latin American revolutionary force did either. We are going to do what our own experience tells us to do.

Therefore, my commitment as FSLN secretary general is to work with you, companeros, so that in the next FSLN National Directorate we may have women members as a result of elections for National Directorate posts. [applause]

Why should we be united? What good will the results of this Congress—unity—do? To defend the achievements of the revolution under new conditions. We have to admit that mass movements, social movements, have acquired a new shape, more autonomy. We cannot confuse the role of the FSLN as a political force that leads with the role that the labor movement and the popular movement have. We cannot confuse the role that the popular movement and the labor movement have, with that of the Sandinist bench either.

We have common strategic objectives, but the fields in which we struggle are different. The rural workers have their struggle, and the teachers have their struggle. The same goes for the health workers, for government employees, for the industrial workers, for the small and middle producers, for the artisans, and for technicians and professionals. We cannot think of putting all these forces on a leash to manipulate them as toys to tell them when they should protest and when not, when they should be mobilized and when not. The rural workers, city employees, and peasants need not ask the FSLN for permission to defend legitimate demands.

We have to realize that the rank and file forces, the social forces, have their own responsibilities. Strikes may break out at any given place. The FSLN must not be blamed for strikes as if it were a political decision of the FSLN because when strikes emerged in our government as when a strike emrges now, or when a strike emerges in any country of the world, we investigate and we realize that in 99.9 percent of the cases, it is because the workers were right to strike. It is not that workers like to strike. [applause] Workers want to work but when they are badly paid, it is logical for them to protest.

One has to be in a worker's shoes to understand his anger. When a worker is pushed into unemployment, he resists and protests. There are the causes of social problems, of social tension, of strikes, of demonstrations, of the big crises that occur not only in Nicaragua but also in developed capitalist countries. There are problems whenever the workers find themselves being harassed or abused.

Companeros, we would be wrong if we were to mix up our global political proposals for stability in the country with the situation being endured by the various Nicaraguan sectors.

It is not that we are inviting or that we have invited the workers to strike at any time. To strike for what? Why would we ask the workers to strike? We just hear about the strikes when the workers are already striking, protesting, or explaining a conflict. Did we not have many strikes during our government? In the middle of the war we even prohibited strikes, and the prohibition did no good because the strikes continued.

Thus, strikes cannot be attributed, in this case, to an FSLN action. They cannot even be attributed to an unreasonable action of the union leaders. Instead, the causes for the strikes must be found to then avoid the strikes, to avoid more tension.

If in the fields peasants who are members of cooperatives that received land from the revolution see themselves being attacked or threatened, then it is logical for there to be tension. It is not that the Sandinists are sending or promoting tension in the fields, but rather that the tension is being created and brought on by those causes.

We are in favor of the country's stability. We have explained this clearly. We have been working for the country's stability; we have been working for that stability over all these years. Since the revolution's victory we have been working for the country's stability. Since 25 April we have been working for the country's stability and we are in favor of a national project. But what national project?

We are in favor of a national project that will unite Nicaraguans and move the country ahead by making a better distribution of wealth. That is the national project that we defend. However, we cannot accept the national project that seeks the stability of the country at the expense of impoverishing the vast majorities and enriching the minorities. We cannot support that type of a national project. The country is confronted with these two proposals of a national project. Naturally, one of them is nothing but a masquerade of a national project in order to sink the nation. That national project places first the interests of the capitalist minorities so they become richer at the expense of the poor heading toward poverty and unemployment. That national project is a masquerade. In our country they want to impose that national project, and we must point it out honestly. They want to impose it in this country, they want to impose it on the government, and they want to impose the neoliberal policies that are oppressive for the workers.

Thus, we must join forces. Sandinists, in the first place, must close ranks and join forces on a national level. We must seek a consensus on a national level. We must also help the government stand up to foreign pressures aimed at imposing that other model of a national plan.

Herein lies the dare, the challenge: how to achieve Nicaragua's progress under these conditions, how to further strengthen the pacification process that has not yet been completed, how to prevent the continued murder of comrades, especially in the countryside, how progress can be made through our socioeconomic transformation, which began with the triumph of the Sandinist people's revolution.

All of this is currently being debated. We know the positions held at the National Assembly, which are aimed at denying the revolution's accomplishments. We know the government's positions and the work done by the concerted effort to establish proposals regarding the property issue and privatization, and to find answers for the countryside that will be the result of a true national consensus. We are in favor of achieving a national consensus. However, I cannot lose sight of the enormous pressures that are exerted over all governments, especially the Latin American governments. Nicaragua is no exception. Enormous pressures are exerted, particularly on the Latin American governments, to impose neoliberal policies and destroy the possibility of any national plan that will provide a minimum of security and dignity to workers.

We will continue working for Nicaragua's stability. We will continue working in defense of the democracy achieved in this country on 19 July 1979. We proved this

with the 1984 elections, which were the first free elections in our country's history. We will continue working for respect for the economic and social achievements that have benefited the majority of Nicaraguans.

However, I cannot lose sight of the fact that while on one hand the government, FSLN, FNT [National Workers Front], and other economic and social sectors, as well as the UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen], have expressed their resolve, on the other hand there are highly politicized and dogmatized political groups that have closed themselves off to any type of understanding with Sandinism, and are determined to do away with it. I cannot lose sight of the return of Somozism to this country, because the Somozists are returning to Nicaragua. A few of them have returned and their attitude is aggressive; they are against the workers, the poorest sectors, the people who benefited from the revolution. They are reckless, abusive, and threatening.

We cannot imagine a reality that does not yet exist in this country. We must assume that today's Nicaragua has greater and better possibilities of working for stability and stable peace. However, the basic conditions have not yet been created for the country to have peace and stability.

As long as the ownership problem is not definitely solved, stability will not be able to exist in this country. We oppose those who are trying to take away the peasants' land, and this opposition is just and correct. It is not a position which can be termed as extremist, although some people may term it so. However, take care, because the adjective extremist can also be used to render null our capacity to fight, struggle, and resist, and we could end up crushed, on our knees, without being able to resist.

We are pledged to struggle because the peasants who received land and the cooperatives that received land should not lose it. Cooperatives whose lands have been taken—there are more than 60 cooperatives whose land has already been taken away....[changes thought] we have talked with the government so that a solution is found, so that land is given to the peasants who have lost their land because it was taken away by force after 25 April.

Consequently, we cannot give up the struggle for those peasants' land; we cannot give up the struggle for the financial aid that those peasants need; we cannot give up the struggle for the houses and settlements for thousands of citizens, thousands of families who benefited by the revolution. We cannot give up legitimate actions carried out during our administration, actions that extremist groups are now trying to disown. We cannot give this up.

Therefore, we are talking about specific actions because, well, the program says a lot of things. The program is very good, but what will each and every one of the people gathered here do to defend the peasants' right to own land? What will we do to defend a person's right to have a house, the right of thousands of families to live in settlements? What will we do so that workers who exerted themselves to the utmost, shed their blood, and shed their sweat in enterprises may eventually become the owners of those enterprises through a privatization process, which we do not oppose?

However, we do oppose turning over those enterprises to Somozist hands. We oppose that those enterprises be wholly turned over to capitalists. We certainly agree that national and foreign investors should join those enterprises, provided that the workers' participation as effective owners of those enterprises is guaranteed. [applause] Comrades, in this new phase we must assume tasks and challenges due to innumerable problems, and we must understand our program and statutes—not as dogmas, not as dogmas.

We must face our own reality and go to every territory, every municipality, and every department [applause] to strengthen Sandinism, and not to strengthen Sandinism merely thinking of winning the next elections. Instead, we must strengthen Sandinism to enhance the Sandinist presence in different areas so as to be able to incorporate efforts in a broad spirit, to incorporate efforts in a flexible spirit, to incorporate people from different economic classes and social sectors, to incorporate those peasants who were directly or indirectly linked to counterrevolutionary activities, to incorporate those who were with us for a time and then drifted away, and to incorporate those whom we were never able to draw close to us, so that we turn the FSLN in this new phase into a political force that is capable of representing—and to incorporate in its struggle as well—all the social sectors and all the economic sectors in our country.

We must also invite, and here we must always take the initiative, all those citizens who belong to other political forces to work around a national project where the interests of the masses take first place. We must invite them to work for the benefit of stability in the country, so long as revolutionary gains are respected, so long as the laws and constitutional order are not violated. Sandinism must be at the forefront of the nation in the struggle for sovereignty, self-determination, stability, the expansion of democracy and social and economic transformations, and peace.

We must be at the forefront, but to do that we must be with the people. To be with the people, we must become increasingly aware of the historic responsibility we bear to move Nicaragua forward. We are not [as heard] taking on this battle for peace, the stability of Nicaragua, and for a national project where the interests of the masses take first place; we are not taking on this battle to win elections. We are not taking on this battle to own the fatherland, because Sandinists did not fight to win elections but to defend the nation, fatherland, [applause] and sovereignty, most of all.

When election time comes around, then we will get ready for the elections. We are not a party that exists just to get ready for elections. We fought to bring democracy to all

Nicaraguans. We fought to let antagonistic political forces, which cannot even stand to see us, have political maneuvering room in this country, something that Somozism, together with U.S. domination, did not give them. We are going to continue defending this, and we must continue defending these achievements.

The Ibero-American Summit that has just concluded in Guadalajara has had a very positive impact, and we support it. We feel that the meeting shows progress in the Latin American integrationist spirit. However, as Compañero Lula [Luis "Lula" da Silva, president of the Workers Party of Brazil] pointed out during his speech before this congress, we must struggle for integration. That is vital.

However, we cannot forget that we must tear down a tremendous Bastille. On 14 July, I sent President Mitterrand a congratulatory message on the anniversary of the French Revolution. In that message, I told him that they tore down the Bastille—the symbol of feudal oppression—but we still have a huge Bastille between the North and the South. We must tear down that Bastille.

The fall of the Berlin Wall provoked so much happiness and joy. However, there is a wall that is much larger and much more brutal than the Berlin Wall. It is the wall that the developed North has built up against the impoverished and oppressed South. Naturally, during that Mexico meeting there was a concern that we must tear down the wall, that we must struggle for a new international economic order, and that we must also struggle for the democratization of the system of the United Nations so that all the countries will have equal rights and we will not find ourselves in a situation in which only the countries that have lots of money and atomic weapons have the right to veto and the others do not have that right. In other words, the United Nations is not yet democratic; therefore, we must also struggle as a political force that is involved in the battle of the Third World peoples for the democratization of the United Nations.

As we close this first FSLN Congress, we want to thank for their participation the delegations, the political forces, and the social and religious movements that are here with us, that have arrived from various parts of the world to be here with us, in a gesture of solidarity that we know how to value and that the Nicaraguan people know how to value.

As we close this first FSLN Congress, we want to recognize the efforts and the work of dozens of companeros and companeras who, with their anonymous work, have made it possible for this congress to be a success, to be good, to be average.

I do not know if you can describe it as good or bad. In any event, we believe that the organizational effort has been great. There might have been some problems, some difficulties, but in general there was a great effort carried out by dozens of companeros who worked with dedication to make this event possible. [applause]

We also want to greet the companeros representing our brothers who, struggling against the Somozist dictatorship and the imperialist aggression, were wounded in combat, were crippled, or lost an arm or leg. Many became blind; others were crippled, hundreds of them. To those brothers, those who were wounded in the war, goes our recognition for their heroism and combativeness. [applause]

We never dreamed of being present at a first congress of the FSLN. We dreamed of fighting against Somoza. We dreamed of struggling against the Yankee oppression, and that was our reason for living, because it made us eager to fight. We did not dream of our lives after the victory, and what was never our dream became a reality. It became a reality for those who had the privilege of surviving in the midst of the war against Somoza.

We have lived through a new experience, an experience that makes us think deeply about the future of our revolutionary process. We do this while remembering the men who in different historical periods defended the dignity of our fatherland.

Our great Ruben Dario [famous Nicaraguan poet and writer] is presiding over this first congress. No one can be a Sandinist without being Dario's admirer. Dario, our great teacher! One cannot be a Sandinist without being a follower of Ruben Dario; one cannot be a Sandinist without sharing the thoughts and the strength of Dario. We have General Sandino, our general of free men. Sandino was the leader of that crazy little army. They called Sandino crazy for standing up to the Yankees. Of course, standing up to the Yankees, then and now, seems crazy. We also have Rigoberto Lopez Perez, who gave his life and whom the tyrant executed, and we have Carlos Fonseca, the founder of the FSLN. Along with all the others presiding at this congress is our brother Carlos Nunez Tellez, to whom it is dedicated. [applause]

In part, they summarize the history of our fatherland. They represent the strength of our people. They are the symbol of Nicaragua's dignity. With them and for them, for the thousands of martyrs who gave their blood fighting against the Somoza dictatorship, for the thousands of brothers who gave their blood in the struggle against the imperialist aggression, for the many deaths that have occurred these last months as the blood of our Sandinist brothers continued to flow, with them and for them, brothers, let us all leave this convention center and this first FSLN congress to continue spreading the word of hope. Let us continue calling out the word of justice, preaching the word of truth, and defending the revolution. [applause]

Long live the Sandinist People's Revolution! [crowd shouts: "Long live the revolution!"] Long live the unity of the people! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Long live Sandinist unity! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Long live free Nicaragua! [crowd shouts: "Long live!"] Sandino lives! [crowd shouts indistinct slogan]

FMLN's Villalobos Address

PA2507193491 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0149 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Speech by Joaquin Villalobos, member of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) at the closing ceremony of the Congress of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) at the Olof Palme Convention Center—live]

[Text] Comrade Daniel Ortega, now the FSLN secretary general; comrade members of the FSLN National Directorate; delegates and members of delegations from around the world attending the first Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez FSLN Congress; comrade representatives of the Nicaraguan Government and the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]; Sandinist brothers: On behalf of the FMLN, I would like to thank you for honoring us with an invitation to this historical event.

Some people have said that revolutions are facing a bad time. If we analyze revolutionary changes in light of past schemes filled with errors and dogma, perhaps that allegation could make some sense. We are living during a time of exceptional changes around the world from all aspects; we are experiencing the end of inflexible ideas.

To judge this historical phase, one must go back more than just a few years. Today, more than ever, disrupted plans and the need to come up with new and revolutionary ideas are the bases for allowing the noble and humanitarian ideals of socialism and the revolution to move ahead.

Sandinist brothers, on behalf of our front, I want to recognize your contributions to new revolutionary ideas. You have devised a new strategy to defeat a dictatorship, brilliantly combining the people's revolutionary energy with the world's progressive currents. You broke old schemes by initiating the construction of an open model of revolution. Obviously, there have been mistakes, but the only those who do nothing never make mistakes. [applause] It must be recognized that your model of revolution has laid the foundation for real democracy that really takes into consideration and respects the people's interests.

You have acted with wisdom and audacity, defending sovereignty, and defeating the biggest mercenary aggression that America ever experienced. Neither the fatherland nor the revolution were humiliated by the empire. In essence, changes inherent to the needs of a democratic revolution were made. Even though the United States may not like it—and those who dreamed of watching the end of Sandinism—its forces were defeated and the revolution and Sandinism remain alive, strong, and more legitimate than ever. They underestimated the revolution's strength and they were ideological and dogmatic in analyzing its ideas.

The Sandinist revolution has made it clear that power and government are not the same thing. For years we were told that in a democracy everyone has the opportunity to head the government. The history of our America, however, is full of electoral fraud, coups d'etat, governments that have not or cannot govern, worn-out democratic leaders, and revolutionary and democratic parties that destroy one another in their attempts to take over the government, but which have no power to confront the oligarchies and the military class who hold real power, even though they are not always a visible part of the government.

In Nicaragua, the revolution established economic power for the people, revolutionary ideological power, and the basis for neutralizing the state's coercive power represented by the police and the Army. In Nicaragua, there have been real and serious advancements toward genuine neutrality in the society's military sector, toward an army that truly respects civilian society, is subordinate to it, and does not stage coups d'etat against legitimately installed governments regardless of their ideological sign—an army that does not repress its people.

For all those reasons, consensus, reconciliation, and the establishment of a broad national project is possible in Nicaragua.

The history of Eastern Europe has clearly taught us that absolute power is a mistake, and that man does not live by bread alone. As our beloved and remembered Dr. Guillermo Manuel Ungo taught us, there is no democracy without revolution, and no revolution without democracy.

Just as you contributed to all these crucial aspects, you, our Sandinist brothers, have given and are giving us lessons in the creation of a new kind of political party. Many have been frightened to see the debate and the evident contradictions within the FSLN. In fact, some have predicted a split. Yet, here we are, doing away with the dogmatic concept of unity and the taboo against contradictions within revolutionary parties as something bad.

Contradiction is the mother of development and unity is the key to strength and power. Democracy begins at home. Those are the steps you have now taken. We leftists must overcome every involuntary vestige of Stalinism, which sometimes can be found in our revolutionary movements.

Consider all the harm that the dogmatic understanding of the concept of being the vanguard has done to revolutionaries—the feeling that one is predestined to be the redeemers of the people based on a theory and not on reality and the belief that we possess absolute truth.

Consider how much this religious vision of our struggle has blocked unity among the revolutionary movements and indispensable alliances with other forces. In overcoming all of these things, the FSLN has made major contributions and now after this congress, it represents a key bastion for the new left and the current of renewal of revolutionary thought in Latin America. For years, the

United States has supported military dictatorships throughout Latin America in the name of democracy. The existence of a revolutionary Cuba, a Sandinist Nicaragua, an invincible FMLN, the revolutionary armed struggle, and the big social struggles all over America have forced open major areas for political maneuvering room for civilian power and democracies throughout America, which now must tackle the difficult task and challenge to be true sovereign governments and end poverty.

The challenge of building true democracies as the path to achieving social justice and to resolve our people's great economic problems is now before us. Advancing toward socialism in democracies, demonstrating that social ownership is efficient and that it develops and takes advantage of the potential of a nation, and even stabilizes it, that is the task before us.

On the subject of challenges and speaking about our situation in El Salvador, the FMLN has taken upon itself to prove to the world that history is on our side. I will recount something to you. On the occasion of the Ibero-American Summit in Guadalajara, Mexico, we worked on an initiative to take advantage of the moment and make an important advance in the negotiations of the conflict in El Salvador. It was proposed to hold a meeting with the participation of Mr. Cristiani and representatives of his government, members of the FMLN Command, the UN secretary general, and presidents of governments that are interested in the process. It was undeniably an excellent opportunity to hold negotiations; however, Mr. Cristiani and his government were afraid [miedo]—to use the correct Spanish word—to hold this meeting. They flatly opposed the holding of this meeting. That is why I arrived late at this meeting. They were afraid of showing themselves as they are, showing that they cannot defend what is indefensible; therefore, it is clear which side in El Salvador represents democracy. In El Salvador, the FMLN and all the democratic opposition forces in the country represent the changing forces in society and we confront reactionary rightist and military sectors of a kind that are seldom seen in the world these days.

In El Salvador, the legality and legitimacy of the government, and especially of the Armed Forces, is being questioned not only by a civil war with nationalist roots, but by the actions of the Armed Forces against the people themselves. This controversy transcends the ideological sphere and demands that structural changes, with the participation of all Salvadorans, be made. It is impossible to impose as a solution that FMLN fighters and military leaders surrender militarily to a military counterpart that has not and will never be able to defeat them on the battlefield, a solution that is basically undemocratic.

The United States itself has committed enormous resources and political support to try to militarily defeat the FMLN and to reform the Armed Forces. They have failed in both endeavors. The FMLN fighters and large segments of Salvadoran society will never agree to be sacrificed for an experiment to try to turn into a democratic and neutral army an army that has proven to be essentially criminal, uncivil, undemocratic, and antinational.

The FMLN's weapons are the historic security of the people and society. Therefore, the FMLN fighters will never surrender our weapons. [applause] We will never permit an Army that has murdered priests, nuns, and bishops to assume the nation's security.

Soon there will be a democratic and peaceful El Salvador with a strong and organized FMLN that will join other forces to further the attainment of economic and social justice for our people.

Everlasting thanks, Sandinist brothers, for your solidarity. Our gratitude for never letting us down. [applause] Long live the first Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez Congress! [audience shouts: "Viva"] Free fatherland! [audience shouts: "Or Death"]

FSLN Critic Says National Accord Needed

PA2607040191 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Jul 91 p 7

[Report by Felix Navarrete]

[Text] Rafael Solis, former National Assembly secretary and a Sandinist critic, warned during an exclusive interview with LA PRENSA yesterday about an imminent civil war if efforts are not made to reach an urgent national accord with the support of the government, the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], 14 political parties belonging to UNO [National Opposition Union], and COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise].

Solis pointed out that without a consensus among these social groups Nicaragua's stability will always be in jeopardy. He rejected the unilateral agreements that the government and the FSLN seem at times to prefer, while leaving out the 14 political parties of UNO, which, according to the Sandinist critic, represents the interests of large segments of the population.

Solis told LA PRENSA, which sought his view on the recently closed Sandinist congress, that he refrained from participating in it because he did not believe that it would yield any attractive results. Solis added that he was invited to attend but declined because he knew that it would produce no new developments.

Solis believes that the FSLN should have discussed the pinata-like giveaway at the congress, but it did not, certainly to avoid weakening the negotiating position it now enjoys in regard to property, but also to avoid uncomfortable friction within the congress. Departmental congresses had pressured delegates to bring up this topic at the national congress.

Nevertheless, Solis said that Sandinism, after this congress, has no excuse for not sitting down to negotiate this conflict and others that affect national life.

When asked his opinion on the possible FSLN behavior after the congress, Solis said that now is the time for the ratified Sandinist leadership to negotiate a national consensus agreement with the government, UNO, and private sector businessmen that will guarantee, once and for all, the country's stability.

Solis does not believe that Nicaraguans are interested in the FSLN program approved at the congress. "I do not believe that socialism is a viable project for Nicaragua," the former National Assembly secretary said in commenting on the principles of the FSLN.

He worries that the FNT [National Workers Front] sector, which has maintained a policy of confrontation toward the government, has consolidated itself within Sandinism. The entire leadership of that union was elected to the Sandinist Assembly. It seems, according to Solis, that this sector supports the line of Daniel Ortega, Miguel D'Escoto, and Tomas Borge.

He believes that the position of General Ortega will be followed and defended by Sandinist leaders such as Sergio Ramirez and Dora Maria Tellez, whom he defends as being "in the center." However, he revealed that certain Sandinists are afraid to "dissent" from the dominant position.

Solis praised the message delivered by Gen. Ortega on 21 July before the congress, saying it was "in the center" and enlightening for FSLN militants. "This is the moderate's position," Solis pointed out.

As for the much-debated property issue, Solis said that houses assigned by virtue of Decree 85 must be paid for and abuses put right. He noted that most legislative recommendations proposed and approved by UNO are good, but some are questionable.

Solis urged the government, the FSLN, and UNO to reach an agreement on the issues of property, the economy, and privatization. He voiced his concern that the sector within the FSLN that favors confrontation might prevail and lead Nicaragua into chaos.

'Recontras' Attack Quilali Police Station

PA2607015691 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2332 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Managua, 25 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Approximately 150 soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) are today chasing some 80 "recontras" who attacked a police station in northern Nicaragua with rockets, leaving four dead and 14 wounded, Deputy Government Minister Jose Pallais has reported.

The group of "recontras," as former contras who again took up arms are called, used RPG-7 and LAW rockets to attack the police station in Quilali at 0400 (1000 GMT) today. The station was defended by 30 policemen, two of whom were killed and six wounded, Pallais confirmed.

Pallais said during a news conference that the attack lasted six hours, and after the exchange of rifle fire was over and the former "contras" had fled, the bodies of two rebels were found.

The deputy government minister said that the group of "recontras" is led by "El Indomable," whom he affirmed has a well-known criminal record within this rebel movement.

Pallais added that the former "contras" left after the EPS reinforcements arrived and took eight wounded with them.

He said that "El Indomable" is "an outlaw," as he is going against the policy of "reconciliation" promoted by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro. Pallais also warned that if the "re- contras engage in resistance," they will receive "the logical answer."

"El Indomable" is the same recontra leader who with some of his men recently attacked Quilali, close to the Honduras border, Pantasma, and El Cua, as well as other towns in the northern part of the country.

In addition, "El Indomable" is linked to the murder of Army Captain Jose Luis Meza, and he was detained in the camps of the former "contras" in Honduras during the Sandinist regime for "violating human rights and committing crimes," Pallais said.

He explained that the former rebel military chief, who is demanding that the EPS leave the area, did not attend a meeting on Wednesday that he was to hold with members of the International Commission of Support and Verification (CIAV) together with another former rebel, "Dimas."

"'El Indomable' is opposed to the dialogue the government is offering, and instead of attending this meeting he preferred to attack the police station," Pallais said.

About 150 heavily armed men are in open rebellion against Chamorro, while approximately 200 disarmed men support this group, according to official sources.

Panama

Reportage on Renegotiating U.S. Military Bases

Legislator Saez Interviewed

PA2507233791 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Interview with Legislator Olimpo Saez by unidentified reporter in Panama City; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] A Legislative Assembly commission is in the United States to look into renegotiating the presence of U.S. military bases in Panama. We would like to hear your opinion on whether or not these interests are more important than national interests.

[Saez] Some legislators' views on the need to renegotiate the military bases so that they may remain here are their personal views, because the Legislative Assembly has yet to issue a statement on the issue. Also, it is appropriate to state that President Endara was on the right track when he said that he will fulfill his electoral pledge to abide strictly by the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. He reasserted that position at the Ibero-American Summit in Mexico. In other words, the Torrijos-Carter Treaties must be implemented, and that means the U.S. military bases must close down by 2000 and that the Panama Canal will be restored to the Panamanian people, under Panamanian sovereignty and managed by Panamanians.

[Reporter] Legislator Olimpo Saez, Leo Gonzalez is one of the legislators who advocates a renegotiation of the military bases with the U.S. Government.

[Saez] Comrade Leo Gonzalez has every right—as a legislator and as a citizen—to have the opinion he considers correct. His opinion coincides with that of Local 907, the U.S. Armed Forces' labor union, but it is not the opinion of the Legislative Assembly, MOLIRENA [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement], the national government, or the Panamanian people.

Linares Comments on Remarks

PA2607044391 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] The Guillermo Endara government has no interest in renegotiating the stay of U.S. bases in our country, Foreign Minister Julio Linares stated today, commenting on remarks by legislators of the Panama Canal Committeee. Many legislators, headed by National Legislative Assembly President Alonso Fernandez, are currently visiting the United States at the invitation of the U.S. Government to discuss the situation of the U.S. bases in Panama.

Before leaving for the United States, Panama Canal Committee Chairman Leo Gonzalez made the following statement:

[Begin Gonzalez recording] We are going to the United States with a mission, if you will, from the Legislative Branch, because we are concerned over the fate of the people working on the military bases. We want to see if we succeed in convincing the United States to stay here beyond the year 2000. We want them to pressure President Endara to begin to negotiate a new agreement on military bases beyond that date. [end recording]

Commenting on Gonzalez' remarks, Linares said:

[Begin recording] [Linares] According to international and domestic law, legislators have no power to negotiate anything.

[Unidentified reporter] Is the Panamanian Government interested in the U.S. bases' staying in our country?

[Linares] The Panama Government stance is very clear. At this time we are not going to negotiate military bases because it is not advisable to negotiate them during this presidential period.

[Reporter] What is to be the future of Panamanians working on the military bases?

[Linares] We have discussed this matter at the cabinet level, and it is clear that all Panamanians must strive to create sources of employment, not just the government but all Panamanians. Unfortunately, as I look at things that are happening, whenever Panamanians become united it is to destroy ourselves. We—the government, opposition, unions—are doing our best to destroy this country. We must become aware of this situation. After 21 years of dictatorship, instead of showing greater responsibility and greater capability, we are acting in a way that I prefer not to describe. We are leading this country toward destruction.

[Reporter] Former Panama Canal Deputy Administrator Fernando Manfredo noted a few days ago that there is no policy to seek a solution to the problem of hundreds of Panamanians who will lose their jobs.

[Linares] Manfredo is now talking like a politician. He himself stated he has presidential ambitions. One can account for his criticism because he is a politician.

[Reporter] Is there such a policy?

[Linares] When we assess and judge people, we must realize that he is responsible for many of the things that have happened in this country. [end recording]

PDC Reports Influence Peddling by Officials

PA2507185491 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 23 Jul 91 pp 48, 15

[Communique issued by the Christian Democratic Party National Directorate on 21 July in El Valle de Anton, signed by PDC President Ricardo Arias Calderon; Vice Presidents Carlos Arellano Lennox and Guillermo Cochez Jr.; and Secretary General Ivan Romero]

[Text] 1. Faithful to the pledge made by the Civic Opposition Democratic Alliance [Civic-ADO], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] National Directorate reaffirms its democratic opposition to the current government due to its failure to fulfill the basic demands by our people, who every day feel increasingly frustrated.

The people responsible for the government's economic undertakings, the same ones who have been in place for the past 18 months, have not yet set in motion a plan for

full, equitable, and modern development. Consequently, the economy is stagnating and unemployment is increasing despite the private sector's enormous efforts.

[The government] has turned its back on solving social problems—especially education and health, which are overwhelming Panamanian families—while public funds are accumulating in the National Bank, and the execution of the budget has been drastically restricted.

A growing tolerance for influence peddling and serious inadequacies in the administration of justice, which have been denounced most recently by the Panamanian Human Rights Committee and by Panama's archbishopric, have fostered indignation and distrust toward government authorities in general.

2. The PDC's National Directorate reaffirms its resolve to consolidate Panama's democracy with specific measures, thereby respecting the country's demilitarized constitutional order.

We support the establishment of a social pact among workers and businessmen as a necessary element through which to promote development in an atmosphere of peace.

We insist on the urgent preparation and implementation of a policy to promote national farm production, the absence of which has currently generated critical and unnecessary insecurity within the sector.

We confirm our support of the 13th month bonus for government employees for reasons of justice, to reactivate the economy, as a means of strengthening the Social Security Fund, and decreasing the sacrifices required for the fund's salvation.

We demand the adoption of the administrative career promised by the Civic-ADO and presented to the Legislative Assembly by the PDC legislators.

We share with other civic, social, and cultural sectors the struggle for our country's moral salvation, focusing primarily on every level of every government institution.

3. The PDC's National Directorate proposes that an effort be made to achieve national unity regarding the Panama Canal, so that we will be prepared to confront the tasks that are essential for fully assuming responsibility for its administration in a timely and adequate fashion. This effort can and should be made regardless of the serious differences that still exist among Panamanians on other issues.

We warn that national strategies that will enable us to negotiate Panama's progressive integration to the Central American isthmus in a realistic and practical manner should be prepared and publicly discussed as soon as possible.

Concurrently, we would like the effort to build democracy, which we should all participate in, to turn not to practices that are tainted with the abuses of the past, but toward a modern and innovative future capable of creating well-being based on freedom and justice.

Transportation Union Leaders Threaten Strike

PA2607015391 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 1

[Report by Elkilia Santos]

[Text] Colon—The transportation sector's national leaders have threatened to go on strike if the government does not give a satisfactory response to the Colon Free Zone cargo truckers. The truckers have paralyzed the Free Zone area for the past week in order to protest a resolution that allows firms established in the area to operate their own trucks to move their merchandise.

Meanwhile, Colon Free Zone truckers rejected a proposal presented by mediators in the conflict, because they considered that it went against their interests.

The strike has created losses of millions of dollars, but it is difficult to give the exact amount because they continue to increase. The crisis has also started to hurt activities related to the movement of trade in the country.

On 24 July, the national collective transportation leaders and the Federation of Transportation Cooperatives met with "Serafin Nino" Cooperative's truckers in Colon and decided to support them.

Furthermore, they asserted that they will consult with the national transportation sector's grassroots on 26 July to propose a national strike if the government does not solve the Colon problem.

On 24 July, Antonio Ferrer, secretary general of the Union of Public Transportation Drivers who initially did not back the Colon cargo truckers, has announced that he would give them his support.

Transportation drivers from all over the country attended the Colon meeting and demonstrated in front of the Colon Free Zone after the meeting.

The cargo truckers demand that Resolution 20-91, which authorizes Colon Free Zone concession holders to have their own transportation, be repealed.

Because the problem is getting worse, Monsignor Carlos Ariz and a group of concession holders started to mediate between the government and the cargo truckers.

However, the first proposal presented by Colon Free Zone concession holders Alberto Motta, Amet Waked, Mohandas Mayanis, and Victor Lewis was rejected by the cargo truckers, because they said it was contrary to their demands.

"Serafin Nino" Cooperative leader Jose Domingo Santamaria, who met at a church in Colon with the four important businessmen and concession holders and with Monsignor Ariz, said on 24 July that the concession

holders had proposed that the resolution remain valid but that the truckers be allowed to participate in its regulation. That is, that the "Serafin Nino" truckers be allowed to participate, with the concession holders and the Colon Free Zone administration officials, in the meetings to decide who will be authorized to move merchandise in this commercial area.

Monsignor Ariz reported that they will continue to search for solutions to the problem, and that the truckers must support their rejection of the proposal and present their recommendations.

Meanwhile, the strike at the Free Zone is causing heavy losses every day and is hindering operations at the Cristobal Port, because these installations are not large enough to receive more cargo containers.

During LA PRENSA's visit to the Cristobal Port installations, we were able to verify that the area is saturated with containers.

A Port Authority Office official, who asked not to be identified, said that because of this saturation, a ship loaded with assorted merchandise had to dock in the Port of Balboa in Panama and this increased its transportation costs.

The tension in Colon Province increases daily and the truckers' attitude becomes more violent, as they have threatened to burn down the trucks that attempt to move merchandise out of the Colon Free Zone.

A Betesh International truck tried to move merchandise on 24 July, but the truck was intercepted by a group of truckers who insulted the people traveling in the vehicle.

Groups of truckers are posted from the Colon Free Zone entrance to the Chilbre area to ensure that trucks do not move in the area.

Second Circuit Prosecutor Agapito Guerrero ordered the arrest of approximately 32 truckers, but Colon Mayor Alcibiades Gonzalez offered to vouch personally for them so that they would not be arrested.

Mayor Gonzalez sent a letter to Area Police Major Ricardo Guardia Figueroa explaining that he had made the offer because there are ongoing negotiations to resolve the truckers' problem.

Meanwhile, Government and Justice Minister Juan Chevalier asserted that the Public Force is prepared to confront the possible looting of the Colon Free Zone "and much more."

Newspaper Resumes Publication 22 Jul

PA2507232491

[Editorial Report] Panama City EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish resumed publication on 22 July 91. A "Publisher's Note" on the front page reads:

"On 17 June we began to move our installations so as to place our office and plant under a single roof. This move, which was planned to take 3 days, developed into more than 30 days. Incredible but true! There is no need for explanations or to go into circumstances that almost all our readers and those who advertise in our paper are aware of. We continue to live in a country full of anachronisms, with situations that at times are surrealistic and at others caricaturesque. We are convinced that the damage caused and the losses incurred by this interruption—which at one point threatened to prevent the resumption of publication of EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE as well as, in several ways, freedom of expression in Panama—will soon be overcome with the support of all our readers.

"For the time being, let us just say that the interests that had plotted together to torpedo the promising future of this newspaper—which plans to continue reporting in a serious manner but without gags or coverups—have been defeated.

"Many thanks for the moral support provided by those who continue to believe in free and independent journalism. We are not going to let you down!"

The editorial box in the upper left hand corner of page 4 informs readers that the newspaper's chief editor is Adan Urena; that it is printed by the Editora La Razon publishing house; and that its new address is "Calle Segunda Perejil No. 17-42, telephones: central 23-0111, advertising 23-0195, and facsimile 23-0709; Post Office Box 55-2163 Paitilla, Panama."

Argentina

Menem Discusses Money Laundering Issue; Judges

PY2507212491 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Silvina Martinez Porta reports from the Government House in Buenos Aires]

[Excerpt] We had the chance to briefly talk with President Carlos Menem at the conclusion of the ceremony in the White Hall, which we reported a few minutes ago.

The talk specifically focused on the proceedings being carried out in Argentina over the laundering of money from drug trafficking. He was asked, why does he think the government has been strengthened by the recent well-known events.

This is what President Carlos Menem said:

[Begin recording] [Menem] Because here there is no possibility whatsoever that the executive branch will interfere with the judicial branch. We basically want the alleged criminal actions to be investigated to the final conclusion, in keeping with the announcements we made when we assumed the Republic's leadership.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] because you are well informed, as many people have been saying these days that Judge [Maria] Servini de Cubria has been receiving pressures from an official level.

[Menem] By whom?

[Reporter] From an official level.

[Menem] These are the whimsical reports, rumors, and clumsiness of some people, who are using these circumstances in an effort to produce political events.

The judge has not—at least from the national executive branch—received and will not receive any type of pressure. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Government To Resume Ties With South Africa

PY2507235491 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2157 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jul (TELAM)—The Foreign Ministry has confirmed that diplomatic relations with South Africa will be resumed before the end of this year. Diplomatic sources said that the government is planning to reestablish its ties with South Africa before the 8 September election, but they declined to disclose the names of candidates for the ambassadorial post.

The Argentine Government was planning to announce the resumption of relations with South Africa during black leader Nelson Mandela's visit to Argentina. Mandela's visit was canceled for health reasons and due to a busy agenda.

The resumption of diplomatic relations with South Africa, which were broken off by former President Raul Alfonsin in 1986, will be announced soon.

Bolivia

Formal Complaint Made on Chilean Border Incident

Complaint Reported

PY2607003891 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Jul 91 p 1

[Text] The Bolivian Foreign Ministry has made a formal complaint to the Chilean Foreign Ministry on an invasion of Bolivian territory by Chileans and excesses committed by them. In the only answer to the complaint, the ministry received a note that no such incidents are recorded in their files.

Reporting on these incidents, which affect our national sovereignty, Acting Foreign Minister Marcelo Perez Monasterios said that the complaint was reiterated through the Chilean consulate in La Paz, and it was requested that the complaint be thoroughly investigated.

The complaint is based on a report by Llica officials. A military mission traveled to Llica last week to check on the report and confirmed that border markers 48 and 49, which delimit the Bolivian-Chilean border, were taken from their bases. Two Chilean companies that are interested in mining gold are working in this border region.

Acting Minister Perez has reported that a joint Bolivian-Chilean commission will meet in Ollague on 7 August. The Llica complaint, however, is not on the meeting agenda.

The Mendez Arcos Infantry Battalion has officially reported the incident involving the border markers to the 2d Army Division, which has reported it to the Army General Command.

There is a mine field in the Chilean zone to the right of border marker 49.

Commander Calls on Legislation

PY2607010491 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 22 Jul 91 p 1

[Text] General Jorge Moreira, commander of the Armed Forces, has stated that the National Congress should get fully involved in solving the problem affecting border markers 48 and 49 in Llica (Potosi), which were removed. Moreira added that about 120 sq km of national territory were affected by the removal.

The Armed Forces commander said that according to a report submitted by the 2d Army Division, which is headquartered in Oruro, several Chilean enterprises are exploiting minerals in the conflictive area.

Moreira said: "The legislative branch should participate in solving this problem, because bilateral agreements are involved. I believe that once reports are drawn up on the basis of work carried out by the respective commissions, the agreements will have to be submitted to Congress for consideration, because they affect an area that has not been delimited for several years. This situation has always been in dispute. There are similar cases involving Peru, Argentina, and Paraguay."

Moreira added that 20 days ago the Armed Forces submitted a document to the Presidency, as well as the Foreign Ministry, reporting the removal of border markers in the Llica region, which, as well as the Silaya and Cerro Capital areas, is a highly conflictive area due to the existence of substantial gold mines.

Referring to the activities of the Foreign Ministry commission in charge of establishing the border with its Chilean counterpart, the Armed Forces commander explained that it had met in Santiago, Chile, to resolve "36 geographic points," of which only about 19 were resolved during office and field working meetings, leaving 16 still pending. Of the pending geographical points, the ones related to Silaya, Cerro Capitan, and Llica are the most complex to resolve.

Moreira added: "In Llica it is obvious that border markers 48 and 49 have been removed. This information is contained in the report sent by the commander of the 2d Army Division, which is headquartered in Oruro." He went on to say that the information had been sent to the Foreign Ministry, which took all the necessary measures and instructed the Bolivian consul in Chile to ask the Chilean Foreign Ministry to order Chilean enterprises in that region to suspend their activities.

Moreira noted the need to definitely establish the border in that sector in order to avoid further sovereignty conflicts. "A surveillance system that will prevent further problems should be set up," he said.

The Armed Forces commander said: "The nation's Armed Forces have already been instructed to step up patrolling in border areas."

Moreira mentioned that two joint border commissions are supposed to meet next November to solve the remaining "16 geographic points" based on office and field studies.

The problem in Llica is very old. Therefore, the legislative branch must do something about it, said Moreira.

Cochabamba Peasants Protest Coca Eradication

PY2507213291 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Hilarion Mamani, leader of the Carrasco Tropical Settlers' Federation, has said that members of Umopar [Mobile Rural Patrol Unit] and Direco [Coca Eradication Directorate] are massively eradicating coca crops by force in the region. In face of this situation, Mamani said, the coca farmers have decided to organize themselves in self-defense committees, and they will resort to all their force to prevent the eradication of coca crops. The government authorities, Mamani added, will be the only ones to be held responsible for whatever may happen. Mamani also asked the government to respect the contents of a document signed a short time ago in La Paz that gives guarantees to the peasant plots, especially while no alternative development program is being implemented.

Brazil

Further Reportage on Incident With IMF Mission

Incident Considered Solved

PY2507132091 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] The government considers the crisis with the IMF solved. The crisis provoked the replacement of IMF mission chief Jose Fajgenbaum with Ted Beza, IMF Western Hemisphere Department director.

Brazilian Government technicians explained that the crisis will delay the analysis of data by two weeks, but it will not endanger the agreement with the IMF.

New IMF Chief Arrives

PY2507211291 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] Ted Beza, new chief of the IMF mission in Brazil, has arrived in Brasilia. He will replace Jose Fajgenbaum, who was removed from his post at the request of President Fernando Collor. Fajgenbaum had suggested changes in the Constitution, during a news conference.

Early today some IMF officials left the hotel, where they have been meeting and went to the Central Bank to continue analyzing reports on the Brazilian economy. Former chief Jose Fajgenbaum did not even leave his room this morning. Thomas Reichmann did not work either. He preferred to wait for the arrival of the new mission chief at his hotel.

Ted Beza, a U.S. citizen, disembarked alone at Brasilia Airport, where he was met by reporters. His good humor revealed he was not the rough type. He calmly dealt with the problem of finding the airport exit and—following an IMF decision—refused to make any comments.

[Begin Beza recording] I do not have any comments. [end recording]

Ted Beza is 62, a high-ranking IMF official, and director of the Western Hemisphere Department. Today he supervises the economic programs of various countries. He has worked at the IMF for 31 years. He is also an adviser to IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus.

IMF officials could not say this morning if the meetings with Brazilian authorities will resume after the arrival of Ted Beza.

Government Discouraged by G-7 Dialogue

PY2607031491 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Jul 91 p 8

[Jorge Bastos Moreno report from Brasilia]

[Text] The Brazilian Government has shown frustration over the position taken by the Group of Seven [G-7] (which consists of the richest, most developed countries) on the subject of aid to resolve the environmental problem. It was in this atmosphere that President Collor met with his ministers and secretaries yesterday to discuss the environment and the Indian issue. According to those who attended the meeting, the government has reversed its initial expectations for foreign aid prospects.

The World Bank, an institution from which the government expected broad support, has decided to disburse the funds earmarked for Brazil in three stages: First, an immediate disbursement of $50 million; then, $250 million between now and two years from now; and finally, $1.2 billion in 1996.

Speaking to the ministers and secretaries attending the meeting, Collor said: Brazil must increasingly draw on its own forces to overcome its problems.

Collor set 30 September as the deadline for formulating an environmental policy. He also asked his aides to work hard on broadening their talks with the governors of Amazon Region states to seek a standardized position because, in his opinion, the federal government and state governments have similar positions on this subject, only greater coordination is needed. The president thus referred to the Amazon Code proposed by Amazonas Governor Gilberto Mestrinho, who suggested that Ibama [Brazilian Institute for Environmental Affairs and Renewable Natural Resources] be stripped of its jurisdiction over the Brazilian rain forest.

At this time, the government considers it essential to promote domestic cooperation and understanding to formulate an environmental policy in the country. During the meeting, Ibama President Tania Munhoz submitted a report on the environmental situation in Brazil. This report will be discussed with the governors and environment-related national institutions to formulate a policy for this sector.

Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek was charged with drawing up guidelines for discussions with the Amazon governors. Justice Minister Jarbas Passarinho will coordinate these discussions and Egberto Baptista, secretary for regional development, will act as his secretary.

Chile

PCCh Propose Reducing Military Budget

PY2507202091 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] The Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] has proposed that, as is the case in other nations, the military budget in our country be proportional to the number of inhabitants. The PCCh said that in this way budget problems, such as those faced today by the health sector, would be solved. Jose Sanfuentes, a PCCh Political Commission member, said that this involves a change in the scale of values.

[Begin Sanfuentes recording] There is a problem here in Chile involving a need to change the scale of values that exists in our country.

Death was favored for 17 years. Massive, huge funds were allocated for the Armed Forces and life was despised—not only through human rights violations, but also by virtually destroying the public health system. This distorted scale of values that exists in our country must be reversed and funds must be earmarked for life, that is, for the health of Chileans, and removed from death. [end recording]

The Communists point out that they are not against the Army, however, they oppose a militarist belief. They say while military expenditures are being reduced in the entire world, the contrary is happening in Chile.

For example, the Communists say 10 percent of the country's main source of income, namely copper, is earmarked for the Armed Forces, increasing this sector's regular budget. If the so-called red metal contributes to 40 percent of Chile's wages, then 4 percent is earmarked for the military sector. The PCCh indicated that, for example, with just 2 percent of this amount the problem that health workers are experiencing today would be solved.

The PCCh indicated, under this perspective, it will support the government in the implementation of a change in the distribution of the national budget.

High Percentage of Health Workers Go on Strike

PY2607034691 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Alejandro Aguilar, president of the metropolitan sector of Fenats [National Federation of Health Workers], said today that legal action against Fenats leaders would be regrettable, because it would mean that the government understands nothing.

Evaluating the first day of a strike by health workers in the metropolitan region, Aguilar said that the strike is going according to plan and there have been no incidents. He said that an average of 95 percent of all health workers obeyed the strike and all hospital shifts scheduled by Fenats worked. [passage omitted]

Patricio Silva, Health Ministry under secretary, admitted today that 75 to 90 percent of all nonprofessional health sector employees obeyed the strike, which was ordered by Fenats. [passage omitted]

Colombia

Foreign Minister Comments on Relations With Cuba

Talks Initiated

PA2507231091 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo Correa confirmed that he has already initiated talks with Apostolic Nuncio Paolo Romeo aimed at analyzing the new decisions related to the Concordat that have been included in the national constitution.

Mr. Jaramillo Correa explained that it has been agreed with the Holy See representative in Colombia to carry out a series of talks in order to look for points of agreement, especially with respect to reforms included in the national constitution on civil divorce for catholic marriages. Minister Jaramillo stressed the intention of the church to carry out talks with the national government.

Foreign Minister Jaramillo also announced that consular and commercial relations with Cuba could be in effect in about 90 days. He added that circumstances would dictate when it would be appropiate to reestablish full diplomatic relations. He added that, for now, Colombia and Cuba would only have full consular and commercial relations; later, based on conditions and the goodwill of each side, the countries would proceed as appropriate.

Meanwhile, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidora Malmierca informed his Colombian counterpart that an official Cuban commission would soon be arriving in Bogota to inspect the Cuban consular installations, determine any needed repairs, and leave them in operating order.

With respect to the Colombian consul in Havana, Minister Jaramillo told newspaper reporters that he is preparing to study possible candidates to occupy the post. He also pointed out that, in his opinion, the position should be occupied by a career diplomat.

On the other hand, and in accordance with the agreements signed between Cuba and Colombia, the Cuban government has agreed to provide facilities to be used as offices and residences for the Colombian consular officer. Cuba has had offices in Bogota for about 10 years.

Foreign Minister Luis Fernado Jaramillo Correa also announced that at least 40 Colombian nationals, who are currently in Mexican prisons, would be repatriated in the next few days, and that the government, through the Justice Ministry, is reviewing the possibility of establishing repatriation agreements with other countries. According to Minister Jaramillo, at least 100 persons would benefit from this measure, 60 of whom are already in Colombia.

Minister Jaramillo pointed out that there is no repatriation agreement between Mexico and Colombia, and that all that has been done was to put into effect a term reduction law that allows Colombia to repatriate its citizens. Once in Colombia, they will be free, but committed to appear before a judicial system official every 45 days.

According to Minister Jaramillo, the Justice Ministry is studying the possibility of signing agreements with other countries. He pointed out, however, the complex issues that this type of bilateral agreement entails, and that it was not an easy matter.

With respect to reestablishing relations between Cuba and Colombia, Foreign Minister Jaramillo stated that both countries will work toward finding instruments that will strengthen commercial relations between the two countries. He also said that solving certain issues related to bilateral payment would establish a way to strengthen trade between the two countries. He added there are many things that Colombia could import from Cuba, and also a lot Colombia could export to Cuba.

In addition, Minister Jaramillo said that Colombia could import a wide range of pharmaceutical, medical and biochemical products, while Colombia is prepared to supply Cuba with textiles and construction products, specifically cement and crude oil.

Minister on Commercial Trade

PA2507155891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1724 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Bogota, 24 Jul (EFE)—Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo today justified the reopening of consular and commercial relations with Cuba and said that his country cannot be an island in the international community.

In response to criticism about relations with the Caribbean nation, Jaramillo said that "today all the South American Countries have relations with Cuba, and we have relations with China and all of the Socialist countries in Europe; this does not imply an ideological acceptance."

"We are a civilized, open, and pluralist country. We have been so in our foreign relations for the last few years, and we move within that context," Jaramillo said.

Colombia and Cuba had reestablished diplomatic relations in 1974 after suspending them in 1961. Another rupture came in 1981, when President Julio Cesar Turbay accused Fidel Castro's government of financing Colombia's leftist guerrillas.

Colombian President Cesar Gaviria met with Castro and announced the reestablishment of relations with Cuba

during the first Ibero-American Summit held in Guadalajara, Mexico, on 18-19 July.

In explaining the action taken in Mexico, Gaviria said on 22 July that "our commercial relations with Cuba are more important than those we have with other countries, with whom we hold diplomatic ties."

Meanwhile, the Colombian foreign minister confirmed that he had met with Apostolic Nuncio Monsignor Paolo Romeo to begin a revision of the Concordat with the Vatican, which has been in effect since 1887 and was last revised in 1973.

Jaramillo said that the treaty must be updated, because the National Constituent Assembly, which concluded its work on 5 July, approved of divorce in catholic marriages in Colombia, and this is one of the issues that the Concordat rules.

Despite the fact that the Catholic Church reiterated that the sacred bond of matrimony is undissolvable, Jaramillo pointed out that "there must be coherence between the Concordat and the constitution."

The foreign minister also referred to Colombia's appointment as the seat of the fourth Ibero-American Presidents' Summit, set for 1994, during the Guadalajara meeting "important contacts were made with other chiefs of state." Among these contacts he emphasized the meeting that Gaviria held with Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez.

Jaramillo added that "there will most likely be a trip to Europe for President Gaviria before the end of the year, although we have not discussed any places or dates." He added that Felipe Gonzalez accepted an invitation to visit Colombia sometime this year.

The chief of Colombian diplomacy explained that Gaviria and Gonzalez had discussed ways to restart work on the Medellin subway, which was under construction by a Spanish-German corporation, but was suspended two years ago because of financial problems.

He also confirmed that Gaviria will travel to Brazil on 2 September to analyze ways to organize the world coffee market with his Brazilian counterpart Fernando Collor de Mello.

Party Congressman Shot to Death in Arauca

PA2607030491 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0053 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 25 Jul (NOTIMEX)—Mario Alberto Cuadros Carbajal, senator for the ruling Liberal Party in Colombia, was murdered in his automobile, while on his way to the northeastern town of Arauca, police sources have reported.

According to the official report, the parliamentarian (alternate) was shot by several armed men on the road between the Colombian municipalities of Casanare and Arauca.

The murder of the political leader has taken place a few hours before the Liberal Party begins its nationwide political campaign in an effort to win several seats in the Colombian congress on election day, which is on 27 October of this year.

The murdered parliamentarian was a firm candidate for the post of governor in the recently created department of Arauca, on the border with Venezuela.

The police said they are unaware of the motives and masterminds behind the attack, although they did not rule out that ELN [National Liberation Army] guerrillas, who operate in that area of Colombia, may have been responsible.

CNGSB Rebels Blow Up Propane Gas Pipeline

PA2607040391 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Reported by Carlos Julio Bethancourt]

[Text] Hundreds of families have been left without propane gas service, because of a new attack by the CNGSB [Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board] on the gas pipeline supplying a large area in the central part of the country.

Engineers from Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] are still waiting for the complete evaporation of the gas in order to finish the repair work and resume the pumping operations. Millions have been lost as a result of this attack and a great tragedy almost occurred.

The gas pipeline between Puerto Salgar and Bogota was blown up near the town of Alban, 12 km from Facatativa, on Km 97. The heavy propane gas odor was still present 12 hours later. According to official sources, a CNGSB commando carried out the attack at 2200; the cold weather and the rain that was falling at the time prevented a catastrophe.

The pipeline supplying gas to Santa Fe de Bogota was seriously damaged, but it did not explode. There would have been immeasurable losses and consequences if a fire had been started.

[Begin recording][local resident Agustin Rivera] I was getting into bed, when I heard the explosion, and all of a sudden the house was shaking.

[Reporter] Were there flames in this area?

[Rivera] No, but there was smoke later on. [end recording]

Losses are estimated at 20 million pesos. A total of 67,200 gallons of propane gas were lost in addition to the 5,000 barrels that were not pumped, when the supply was cut off.

[Begin recording][local resident Aurelio Buitrago] All the people will end up paying for this. We are living in constant danger. We are always afraid of being killed at any moment. [end recording]

Units from the 13th Brigade are watching the area. There have been five attacks on the Barranca-Puerto Salgar-Bogota line so far this year. This new attack on the national economy took place a day before the army frustrated another attack on two communication towers in Chipaque Municipality, Cundinamarca Department.

Roundup of Guerrilla Activities 14-25 Jul

PA2607043791

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of battle reports and guerrilla activities in Colombia carried by Spanish-language voice, press, and press agency sources monitored at Panama Bureau between 14 and 25 July.

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 14 July carries a 700-word report on pages 1a, 6a, and 12a stating that the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) on 13 July "isolated Norte de Santander and Arauca Departments, when it blew up the bridge over the Cogubo River in Samore—the only bridge joining those two departments." The report adds the guerrillas also blew up a power tower in Carolina, Antioquia Department, leaving nine municipalities in the northern part of the department without electricity. The guerrillas also blew up a segment of the Trans-Andean Oil Pipeleine in Piedrancha, Narino Department, destroying 3,000 barrels of oil.

In a 350-word article, EL TIEMPO reports on 15 July on page 12A that on 14 July, "six guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) were eliminated and five were captured by the military patrols during counterinsurgent operations in Cundinamarca, Narino, and Antioquia." The same report adds that on 14 July the guerrillas blew up two power towers belonging to the Pasto-Popayan network, forcing the power company to limit electricity to six hours each day in 37 municipalities in Narino Department, where they also damaged a bridge that joins the northeastern neighborhoods with the center of the oil port in Barrancabermeja, Santander Department. EL TIEMPO prints on the same page another 300-word report noting that one police lieutenant, two policemen, and a judge "were taken prisoners" by the 25th FARC Front in El Diamante, Roncesvalles Municipality in Tolima Department. The report adds that the group was ambushed, as it was going to investigate a poppy plantation in the area.

Finally, Madrid EFE in Spanish at 1627 GMT on 25 July quotes sources from the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL) who announced on 25 July that guerrilla attacks against oil pipelines in the last five years have cost Colombia "48 million barrels of crude oil," and that "Colombia has been unable to export 33 million barrels, which means an additional $550 million did not enter the national economy."

Paraguay

Rodriguez Returns From Mexico, Evaluates Summit

PY2507184091 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 2350 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] A few minutes after President Andres Rodriguez returned from his trip, he talked about his meetings with Fidel Castro during the Ibero-American Summit in Guadalajara, Mexico. Asked whether Paraguay would maintain relations with communist countries, Rodriguez said:

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] There are practically no more communist governments. I believe the PRC still has a communist government and Cuba is also considered communist. However, I believe that Cuba is liberalizing its government, not democratizing it. I had several opportunities to meet with Fidel Castro to discuss relations. I noticed that he is liberalizing Cuba. He even asked if we could have some kind of trade, if we could establish relations at the consular level. I told him that we would study it. It depends on the benefit of a commercial relationship with Cuba, as to whether we accept it.

[Reporter] A Soviet congressional delegation arrived today. Are you going to meet with them?

[Rodriguez] I am going to hold the kind of meetings all democratic governments hold, because I consider myself a democrat; my colleagues of the Ibero-American Summit have put that seal on me. Therefore, I am going to talk with them. I am going to discuss any issue of interest that may benefit the Paraguayan people and the country. Any issue of interest will be welcome.

[Reporter] What has been the greatest achievement of this trip for you?

[Rodriguez] The greatest achievement is the fact that we were considered equal with all the Ibero-American countries that participated in the Guadalajara Summit. There were no differences. We were considered equal to other countries because of our democratic government.

[Reporter] Are you definitely going to keep your civilian clothes and not your military uniform as president?

[Rodriguez] Definitely, I keep that in mind. I keep in mind the idea of living in democracy and freedom with social justice for our people.

[Reporter] Allow me a last question. This is Army Day Mr. President, do your colleagues believe that just as they respect their uniform they also will respect civilian clothes?

[Rodriguez] This morning from far away, I was thinking of my Armed Forces comrades. I sincerely hope that now, more than ever, the Armed Forces will keep the glorious legacy inherited from our forefathers who shed their blood for the country in the Triple Alliance and the Chaco wars. This is how they showed their love for the fatherland. I believe that this is one more opportunity for the Armed Forces, since the creation of the fatherland has been struggling for its independence and, now for its democratization, will continue united to make the dream of a better future a reality. [end recording]

Delegation To Visit USSR, Hungary, CSFR

PY2507172091 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 8

[Excerpts] The Paraguayan Government will have trade relations with the USSR, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia. An official delegation, headed by Industry and Commerce Minister Dr. Ubaldo Scavone, will travel to these nations to conduct the negotiations. A group of entrepreneurs will join the delegation.

President Andres Rodriguez has said that he would not have a problem at all with meeting the Soviet congressmen who are in Asuncion. He confirmed that his government is studying a future trade relationship with Cuba.

During the flight that brought President Andres Rodriguez back to Asuncion from Caracas, the industry and commerce minister yesterday said that in September 1991 an official delegation will first travel to the United Kingdom and then to the USSR, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.

In the United Kingdom, the delegation will meet with government officials and also with entrepreneurs in order to find new mechanisms of understanding to promote smooth trade.

Scavone will travel from London to Moscow and then to Budapest and Prague in order to meet representatives of the respective governments, as well as to hold talks at an entrepreneurial level. The goal is to enhance relations and establish trade relations. [passage omitted]

According to the information gathered, several national entrepreneurs have expressed their intention to join the industry minister on his tour.

In addition to trade, the meetings could lead to the attraction of capital. Furthermore, the possibility of forming joint ventures, which will enable the implementation of projects of mutual interest, has not been ruled out.

Soviet Parliamentary Delegation Visit Reported

Soviet Parliamentarian Comments

PY2507133491 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 12

[Text] Boris Oleynik, the head of the Soviet parliamentary delegation visiting Paraguay, said on 24 July: "First, we should intensify the dialogue and the exchange of personalities, of delegations, and I wish to say that we are happily awaiting the visit to our country of Paraguayan congressmen in order to continue the dialogue. I have no fear in saying that this dialogue could conclude with the activation of full relations between the two countries."

He added that the dialogue must conclude with the signing of a protocol of diplomatic relations and economic relations, because he considers that the "logical course."

During his visit some weeks ago, the Soviet ambassador in Buenos Aires highlighted the fact that the resumption of bilateral relations could begin immediately.

"I agree," Oleynik said, "and I can confirm that we have an immense market, and we expect to receive Paraguayan merchandise. I also believe that we can meet each other halfway."

The Soviet parliamentarians will place a wreath this morning honoring the Unknown Soldier in the National Heroes Pantheon, and they will meet with Senate President Gustavo Diaz de Vivar and Chamber of Deputies President Antonio Moreno Ruffinelli. They will also meet with Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken and representatives of the political parties.

Delgation's Activities Detailed

PY2507170291 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 2

[Text] A delegation of Soviet parliamentarians arrived on 24 July on an official visit for the first time. Delegation chief Boris Oleynik has demonstrated his interest in resuming diplomatic relations, which were broken off in 1917, between our countries. "Brothership between peoples is the currency that can never be devaluated," he said. The delegation plans to carry out an intense agenda of activities.

The delegation headed by Oleynik, a member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet (a bicameral Directors organization of the Soviet Parliament), also includes Valentina Kisileva and Vladimir Maslin, both members of the Supreme Soviet; and People's Deputy Yuri M. Marinichev, vice chairman of the Consumer Market Commission of the Supreme Soviet [name and title as published].

The delegation was met at the Silvio Petirossi Airport by members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, representatives of the Russian

community in our country, and Foreign Ministry officials. Ananias Maidana, secretary general of the Paraguayan Communist Party, was also at the airport to greet the delegation.

Shortly after they arrived, delegation members gave a news conference, in which they expressed their satisfaction on being in Paraguay. "We would like to implement every aspect of the future cooperation between our countries," Oleynik said.

During the afternoon, they met members of the Foreign Relations Committees of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies. While at Congress, they also met with members of the Russian community.

Paraguayan Deputy Antonio Salum Flecha on 24 July termed the visit a historic event, and he recalled that in 1917, the year of the "Soviet revolution, relations were totally interrupted between Russia, which was still imperial at that time, and then became the Soviet Republic in 1919, and Paraguay."

The delegation chief stated that "the first contacts" are being made "to formalize relations between our two countries, because Paraguay is one of the few countries with which we still do not have diplomatic relations, but I believe that events will push us toward those relations."

"In an interdependent and interlinked world there are no remote places, places isolated from the common path," Oleynik said.

He stated that he is interested in our political process due to the transformations that are also occurring in his country.

"All currency that is convertible in the development of society loses its value, and brothership is the only true currency between people, because it can never be devalued," he stressed.

Armed Forces Reaffirm Support for Democracy

PY2507164891 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 7

[Excerpts] In remarks to journalists shortly after a ceremony marking Army Day yesterday, Vice Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit and Division General Ramon Humberto Garcete said: "The Armed Forces of the nation hold an invariable position of conducting Paraguay to a definitive democratic path with full liberties, in harmony, and with social justice." [passage omitted]

The few journalists present at the Army Day ceremony registered brief remarks from both Admiral Gonzalez Petit and Gen. Garcete, as well as from other high-ranking military leaders, who attended the ceremony yesterday at the Pantheon of the Heroes.

The Paraguayan Navy commander said: "The Armed Forces maintain their unswerving decision to unreservedly support the current democratic process in Paraguay that is fully effective."

In response to another question, the Paraguayan Navy commander said that the professionalization and technicalization of the Armed Forces cadres and services in the service of our country's progress and development are also effective.

In an obvious reference to the interior minister, some radio station colleagues did not miss the opportunity to pose an indiscreet question in the sense that some Army generals "are meddling in the internal politics of some political parties."

For his part, in response to questions from the journalists, 1st Army Corps Commander Gen. Garcete reaffirmed the remarks already expressed by Vice Admiral Gonzalez Petit that the Armed Forces invariably stick to their decision to serve the country by strengthening the current democratic process "with full liberties, in harmony, and with social justice."

Peru

Comptroller General on Threats to Investigators

PA2507190591 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1837 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Lima, 24 Jul (DPA)—It was learned on 24 July in Lima that Comptroller General Luz Saenz has charged Peruvian Interior Ministry officials of issuing death threats to those who investigate the irregular handling of properties seized from drug traffickers.

Saenz made the charges during an interview with a parliamentary commission that studies cases of corruption in the area. Saenz denounced that the Interior Ministry's inspector general, Miguel Aranda, and the current chief of the Executive Office for Drug Control (Ofecod), Alfonso Calderon, issued death threats to the Comptroller General's Office officials who tried to clarify the affair.

Until recentlyw, neither Aranda nor Calderon have made any comments on the comptroller's statements. Saenz also reported new corruption cases in Ofecod and the National Cocaine Enterprise (Enaco). Ofecod and Enaco handle the goods seized from alleged traffickers.

For instance, it was learned that Enaco officials sold potassium sulfate, methyl, sulfuric acid, ether, and kerosene to drug traffickers. These products are necessary for the production of cocaine and had been seized from the same traffickers.

The money that was passed by Ofecod to Enaco was used by the directors of the enterprise for trips and other

personal expenses. According to the investigations carried out by the Comptroller General's Office, over $100,000 was stolen from the state this way.

The parliamentary commission also finds new reasons for scandal every day. For example, Deputy Julio Castro reported that an Enaco manager, Carlos Matos, sold to friend a stolen luxury station wagon, in perfect condition, for $137.

Drugs, supplies, cash, cars, jewelry, miscellaneous objects, and even small airplanes vanished while in the hands of the authorities after being seized during operations. The corruption reaches amounts that have still not been fully accounted for, but which are, nevertheless, enormous.

Debt Payments 'Withheld' Pending Support

PY2507232391 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 17 Jul 91 p 5

[Excerpt] The Peruvian Government has decided to withhold foreign debt payments to multilateral organizations until the Support Group, which will be instrumental in helping Peru rejoin the international financial system, is established.

Alfredo Jalilie, economy and finance vice minister, made this announcement yesterday at a congressional hearing of the Joint Budget Committee. During the hearing, Jalilie also heard another proposal for improving teachers salaries.

He said not one more cent will be paid unless it becomes clear that the Peruvian efforts are being reciprocated—in terms of fresh financial resources—by foreign organizations and governments.

Elmer Evangelista, chairman of the Joint Budget Committee, and Bernardo Dolmos and Eduardo Calmell del Solar, members of the committee, said that Jalilie's announcement was warmly welcomed by all committee members.

Jalilie reported that thus far this year Peru has paid $245.321 million of its foreign debt to the Inter-American Development Bank, to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and to the Andean Development Corporation, among others.

Jalilie noted that foreign debt payments to various organizations have been withheld since April. He made it clear that no further disbursements will be made until the Support Group is established.

The amount of withheld payments thus far totals $85 million, which is being deposited in a special account at the National Bank. [passage ommited]

Prime Minister Admits 'Delay' in Debt Payments

PY2607001791 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Jul 91 p 3

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, yesterday in Guadalajara, Mexico, upheld Economy Minister Carlos Bolona's comment that Peru has not withheld nor suspended payments on its foreign debt, but admitted that there is "some delay due to cash shortages." [passage omitted]

Carlos Torres y Torres Lara said: "The problem affects payments currently being negotiated with international organizations. Those institutions have been duly warned about delays caused by cash shortages." [passage omitted]

The prime minister said in Guadalajara that the delays experienced during the past few months show that "we are at the limit of our ability to pay."

Regarding the comments of Alfredo Jalilie, economy and finance vice minister, the prime minister said:

"Minister Bolona spoke to Jalilie and they came to the conclusion that the vice minister's comments had been distorted."

Torres y Torres Lara noted that the "cash shortages" that Peru has experienced during the past few months have not upset the creditors because they were kept informed of the corrective measures President Alberto Fujimori's government was adopting.

Proving that the "Support Group," which will help Peru overcome its "ineligible" status is a fact, the Peruvian prime minister commented that the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] has just granted a $100-million loan.

Torres y Torres Lara said that he maintains a permanent dialogue with IDB Chairman Enrique Iglesias, who has voiced "his most sincere decision to cooperate with Peru. This cooperation will materialize mainly through direct loans that could start to arrive during the second half of 1991."

The prime minister noted that the transportation sector will benefit most from this IDB loan because it will be used to repair highways.

He added that the rest of the loan will be used for potable water and sewage systems, which will help improve the living standards of the urban areas and will create job opportunities. [passage omitted]

Minister Clarifies Foreign Debt Payment Position

PY2507234991 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 19 Jul 91 p 8

[Text] Alfredo Jalilie, economy and finance vice minister, yesterday clarified the position of his ministry regarding the payment of the foreign debt. He denied

that the government will backtrack on its policy of strictly complying with its obligations before the international financial organizations.

Jalilie thus clarified a recent statement he made in Congress about a temporary deposit in a bank account of money that will be used to pay the foreign debt. His remark has been distorted and wrongly interpreted by some elements of the media, not, however, by EXPRESO.

Jalilie said: "The report that we do not want to pay the debt is false because the intention of this government is to fulfill all its international commitments." He explained that depositing the money is the result of a legitimate decision by Peruvian officials to encourage the international financial community to expedite the formation of the Support Group.

He labeled the measure as "strategic and protective," adding that the measure should not be taken as a decision not to pay the foreign debt.

Jalilie said: "The fact that $85 million has been deposited in a bank account, despite the sacrifices being made by the Peruvian people, shows the government's will to make the payments."

Jalilie talked to the press upon leaving his office. He produced a document that showed that deposits were made by the government in account No. 6-000-020328 of the Bank of the Nation between 25 April and 3 July 1991. The total deposit stands at $85,382,540.84 billion after deducting some payments to the World Bank.

Jalilie said: " I have informed the Bicameral Budget Committee of the difficult situation in the country and the efforts being made to come out of the crisis. I mentioned holding up foreign debt payments, which I would like to reiterate does not represent a backtrack on our promise but a strategic measure."

Parties Sign Agreement on National Pacification

PY2507225591 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 17 Jul 91 pp 2, 3

[Excerpt] The main political parties of the country have signed an agreement that seeks national pacification. The agreement says that terrorist subversion must be defeated at the lowest possible social cost.

The agreement was signed at the Foreign Ministry last night. It highlights the commitment of political organizations to work toward pacifying the country, above ideological differences, by placing their patriotic and democratic responsibility above everything.

The representatives of the political parties said that terrorist subversion seeks to destroy the democratic regime, which the nation has achieved and institutionalized.

The agreement adds that the government permanently seeks to improve, guaranteeing a free, just, and democratic society.

The second point of the agreement says terrorist subversion must be defeated ideologically, politically, and militarily at the lowest possible social cost.

The agreement highlights the need for a democratic and countersubversive strategy that will work in harmony with the efforts for pacification and national development.

The third point of the agreement says that the government carries the main responsibility for planning and implementing this pacification process.

The agreement states that the pacification process must be carried out strictly in accordance with the law and that any violations of human rights committed by civilians, the Armed Forces, or the National Police must be severely sanctioned.

It points out that the political forces have a common and responsible commitment in this struggle.

The agreement was signed by Luis Alberto Sanchez of the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance]; Sandro Mariategui of Popular Action; Enrique Elias Laroza of the PPC [Popular Christian Party]; Miguel Cruchaga of the Freedom Movement; Carlos Tapia of the Socialist Left; Fausto Alvarado of the Sode [Solidarity and Democracy]; Eduardo Lopez Therese of the FIM [Independent Moralization Front]; Luz Salgado of Change 90; Francisco Diez Canseco of the Independent Civic Union; Juan Penaloza of the Frenatraca [National Workers and Peasants Front]; and Humberto Morales Bermudez of the National Unity Democratic Front.

The ceremony was headed by Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, prime minister and foreign minister, who expressed the government's satisfaction over the agreement reached with the political forces of the country. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Command Denies 'Dirty War' Charges

PY2507183191 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 16 Jul 91 p 4

[Text] In response to reportage carried by some of the media, in which the Armed Forces is said to support an alleged "dirty war" in the country, the Armed Forces Joint Command wishes to announce the following:

1. The report was presented as a part of a television program, together with an interview with Amnesty International personnel and was offered as evidence of an alleged "dirty war." The report includes scenes that did not reflect reality, to the point that some of them were taken from a film that was shown nationwide. Some viewers could, unfortunately, have been misled by what they saw: deeds that could definitely not have been carried out by the Armed Forces. We categorically reject the way in which this information was presented.

2. The report does not reflect the doctrine or the spirit of the Armed Forces Joint Command. An investigation has been ordered to establish those responsible.

3. The joint command reiterates that the Armed Forces will continue their struggle against terrorism in accordance with the law and the Constitution, in defense of the democratic system, until the pacification of the country is achieved.

Lima, 15 July 1991. Public Relations Office of the Armed Forces Joint Command.

Government Sells Holdings in Electric Companies

PY2507202391 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 Jul 91 p 1

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Fernando Sanchez Albavera has reported that, under the authority bestowed upon it by Congress, the government offered for sale on 17 July the shares that it holds via Electro-Peru [Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise] in the regional public electricity service companies.

Thus, Electro-Peru is selling 46.6 percent of its holding in Sociedad Electrica del Sur Oeste; 58.5 percent of its holding in Electro Norte Medio; 65.4 percent of its holding in Electro Sur Medio; 54.7 percent of its holding in Electro-Centro; 6.9 percent of its holding in Electro Sur Este; 8 percent of its holding in Electro Oriente; and 49 percent of its holding in Electro Sur.

State-Owned Petroperu Oil Monopoly Terminated

PY2507221791 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 19 Jul 91 p 12

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Fernando Sanchez Albavera announced on 18 July the end of the monopoly enjoyed by the state-owned Petroperu [State Petroleum Agency] enterprise in the production, marketing, and distribution of oil.

He said that from now on, Petroperu will be able to associate with private enterprises in the various stages of oil production, seeking to expand and modernize our oil industry installations.

The announcement was made during Confecan 91, an event in which 21 Peruvian Chamber of Commerce representatives participated. The move will contribute to the creation of private oil enterprises.

Sanchez said that Peru needs fresh capital. He added that it will be necessary to create a commission to establish oil prices in keeping with international regulations. He said that this will help to attract investment for hydrocarbon prospecting.

In his 30-minute speech, Sanchez said that the privatization process of Hierroperu [Peruvian Iron Mines Enterprise], Mineroperu [Peruvian State Mining Enterprise], and Centromin [Central Peru Mining Enterprise] will be expedited through the installation of mixed-capital ventures.

He added that under the previous administration, which ruled the country for five years, the mining sector lost over $2 billion because the Peruvian currency was overvalued compared to the dollar. He opposes the tax on exported mining products.

He advocated the extension of the existing "draw back" [preceding two words in English] system, (reimbursing taxes on exports) of gold and silver to cover all minerals sold abroad.

Concerning oil, Sanchez said that ecological groups that oppose an accord over Texas Crude, are causing "serious damage" to the country because they are creating an unfavorable atmosphere for investors.

Sanchez also said that the problems with Oxy [not further identified] are about to be resolved. He also referred to a pre-agreement that "has saved the country $84 million."

Minister Comments on Privatization of Companies

PY2507120791 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 17 Jul 91 p 3

[Reported by special correspondent Edwin Sarmiento]

[Text] Paita, 16 Jul—Transportation and Communications Minister Jaime Yoshiyama has reported here that the government will deregulate air transportation, privatize the state-owned Entelperu [National Telecommunications Enterprise of Peru], and sell, before December 1991, 70 percent of its Aeroperu [Peruvian State Airlines] shares to the private sector.

Yoshiyama said that, at President Alberto Fujimori's special request, his ministry is carefully studying each of the measures that seek to modernize national air transportation and telephone service sectors.

The minister made this announcement in the northern port of Paita, where he went to supervise port activities following the government decision to dismantle the Maritime Work Supervisory Committee, because it make Peruvian port services more expensive.

He expressed his satisfaction, saying that the price for loading and unloading services had dropped from $18 to only $8 per metric tonne. This decrease in price has been praised by maritime agents and workers of this important Peruvian port.

Minister Yoshiyama traveled to Paita with members of his ministry's transportation commission, among them Deputies Rafael Rey (Freedom Movement); Augusto Lanatta (American Popular Revolutionary Alliance—APRA); Raul Pereyra (Popular Christian Party); Deputy Transportation Minister Alfredo Rosa; Rear Admiral

Dante Mantellini, president of Enapu (National Ports Enterprise); and other officials.

The minister pointed out that his sector wants to attract fresh private capital to stimulate an aggressive modernization of these companies, which will thus improve their resources and offer a better service.

Fujimori Calls Coca Growers 'Interlocutors'

PY2607022091 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 21 Jul 91 p A 4

[Text] During a special meeting at Pizarro Palace last night, President Alberto Fujimori characterized 150 leaders of peasant communities that are responsible for 60 percent of the world's coca production as "valid interlocutors in the process of replacing coca plantations in the Upper Huallaga region and on the banks of the Apurimac River." He also announced the government's irrevocable decision to hold talks and to grant protection and a number of benefits to coca growers as a first step in the long battle against the drug trade.

In his first high-level meeting with leading coca growers, Fujimori announced the creation of the Special Coca Program, an organization charged with coordinating peasants' ideas on crop substitution and with the construction of a 3.5 megawatt hydroelectric plant in Uchiza to promote agricultural and industrial development in that region. This organization will also repair access roads in San Martin and Ayacucho.

Addressing the coca growers, Fujimori asked them to join him in observing a one-minute silence in tribute to late coca leader Walter Tocas, whom he described as the first victim in the all-out war against the drug trade. He also stated that Chief Justice Cesar Fernandez Arce and Attorney General Pedro Mendez Jurado will take every action to make sure that this crime does not go unpunished.

Sitting at the main table with President Fujimori and coca growers was Hernando de Soto, president of the Freedom and Democracy Institute. Also present in the audience were Defense Minister Jorge Torres Aciego, U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton, and a representative of the International Red Cross.

The characterization of coca growers from San Martin, Junin, Cuzco, and Ayacucho as "valid interlocutors" in the coca replacement process has been incorporated into Executive Resolution 293-91-PCM, which President Fujimori signed last night in the presence of coca growers after his first meeting with them.

In his speech, Fujimori lamented the fact that earlier administrations were known for having "a bureaucratic approach that was limited to repression," as the only way of resolving the coca problem, when the most important thing is to take heed of the views of the primary victims of the drug trade in order to seek a realistic solution to the growing number of coca plantations.

The president said that the Armed Forces and the National Police will cooperate with coca growers in carrying out actions aimed at promoting progress and development, without overlooking the best ways of helping them defend themselves against the scourges of terrorism and drug trafficking—"we will not stand by idly."

Fujimori emphasized the significance he attaches to the presence at Government Palace of legitimate coca leaders willing to put an end to one of the worst evils affecting mankind—drugs. He said: "The road ahead of us is long, but we will move on it together, step by step, without lowering our guard."

Alberto Lopez, coordinator of the Defense Front for the Eradication of Coca Leaves in Upper Huallaga-Uchiza, spoke in the name of the coca growers. He invited Fujimori to attend the First Meeting of Coca Growers slated for 12-14 August and conveyed their desire to hold talks with the government to achieve integrated development in their region.

Contradictory Peasant Defense Patrols Organized

PY2507191991 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 17 Jul 91 p 5

[Text] Huaraz, 16 Jul (EXPRESO)—Chavin Region Prefect Pedro Maguina Calderon today reported that the "Federated Defense Patrols" are dominating Siguas and Pallasca Provinces. He added that these defense patrols are organized by Communist organizations that appoint local authorities without considering central government orders.

Maguina asserted that these unofficial organizations are supported by the residents of Chavin Region, which is manipulated by United Left party politicians.

He added that the leaders of the "Federated Defense Patrols" organize "people's trials" to judge the authorities, who have been appointed by them, whenever these authorities fail to comply with their orders. Several of these authorities have been expelled from the region after receiving death threats.

Prefect Maguina said that to prevent the "Federated Defense Patrols" from dominating the Chavin Region, he has organized about 50 "Democratic Defense Patrols," and Huaraz Bishop Jose Ramon Gurruchaga Ezama has organized the "Peasants Peace Defense Patrols."

Shining Path Activities in Berlin Viewed

PY2607005391 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 20 Jul 91 p 22

[Reported by Jorge Salazar]

[Excerpts] Berlin—

A Personal Firmness. By observing the activities of the Shining Path terrorist organization, and of some of its members in Europe, one can conclude that the individuals who oppose the state and the authorities are, in a way, asking for help. Perhaps they subconsciously want a strong state that can protect and help them. They probably want a state that can relieve the burden of living within a society. [passage omitted]

The activities of the Shining Path are more or less visible in Berlin, where many slogans have been painted on the walls. Coincidently, most of them can be seen in determined areas of the city, especially in the so-called "Turkish area." This fact has an explanation. [passage omitted]

The Shining Path goes largely unnoticed in Berlin, but it does try to show its presence. There is an organization known as "Amauta Studies Circle" which, from time to time, sponsors meetings on the "popular war in Peru." These meetings are organized by Alfredo Alberdi. They are attended more by members of the pro-Maoist TKPML [Marxist-Leninist Turkish Communist Party] than by Germans or Peruvians.

The TKPML seems to be a great sympathizer of the activities of the Shining Path in Peru. The prestige of Shining Path top leader Abimael Guzman has led the TKPML to consider him the guide of the world revolution. This is why the slogans are painted in Berlin's Turkish area, many of them in the Ataturk language.

The Soviet economic crisis and the downfall of communist regimes have led many Peruvians scholarship students to interrupt their studies and even to leave these countries. These youths, probably frustrated over the situation, tried to return to the West through Berlin and Sweden. The Shining Path organization is better organized and equipped in Sweden, where students are encounraged to join the organization.

These youths faced no major problems returning to the West through Berlin until Germany became reunified. The FRG Security Police, STACY, sought to sabotage "the other Germany" by helping the Peruvians, who wanted to leave the East, and helping other elements who caused problems (including terrorists and heroin traffickers), to get to West Germany. Following the unification of Germany, the police began to "clean up" the country, especially Berlin, by ousting those who had illegally entered the country. It has been learned that since the wall was knocked down some 500 Peruvians have been expelled from Germany. Of these, 300 lived in Berlin.

The activities of the Shining Path terrorist organization in Berlin consist of small meetings aimed at strehgnthening relations with Turkish comrades, participation in conferences, and activities sponsored by the famous Ibero-American Institute based in Berlin. Here Shining Path followers denounce the attacks and acts of genocide perpetrated in Latin America, especially in Peru, since the begining of time.

Roundup of Terrorist Activities 16-19 Jul

PY2507182391

[Editorial Report] The following are reports on terrorist activities in Peru compiled from Peruvian papers published between 16 Jul and 19 Jul. Publication information is given in parentheses after each item.

Shining Path terrorists have tortured and killed peasant Juan Hermosilla Valentin in the Pampamarca District of Dos the Mayo Province, Huanuco Department, because he refused to join this outlawed organization. The terrorists are reportedly linked with drug traffickers operating in the area. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 16 Jul 91 p A 13)

The Peruvian Telephone Company has reported that early on the morning of 8 July, terrorists destroyed overhead and underground telephone lines, causing problems to businesses and houses along the central highway near the Ate-Vitarte and Santa Ana Districts of Lima. (Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 17 Jul 91 p 5)

On the night of 13 July, terrorists dynamited the Huayunga hydroelectric plant, 10 km from the city of Cajabamba, 124 km southeast of Cajamarca. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Jul 91 p A 13)

Personnel of the National Police headquartered in Ica have arrested Juan Lucio Sihuas Carbajal, who drove a truck loaded with scrap iron toward a foundry in the southern part of the country. The truck also carried 228 dynamite sticks, fuses, and detonators. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 18 Jul 91 p A 11)

Early on the morning of 18 July, terrorists hurled bombs at a shoe factory in the El Cercado de Lima District and at an Electro-Lima (Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise) office in the San Juan de Miraflores District. The explosion injured three people and caused property damage. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 19 Jul 91 p A 14)

On 18 July, a column of Shining Path terrorists killed three peasant leaders in the Quintay township, Huaura Province, 40 km northwest of Huacho. The terrorists reportedly belong to the group led by Shining Path top leader Abimael Guzman. (Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Jul 91 p 25)

Fishing Agreements With Soviets Being Studied

PY2507200791 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Jul 91 p 10

[Text] Fisheries Minister Jaime Sobero Taira said yesterday that the government is studying new fishing agreements to be signed with the Soviet Union.

He indicated that negotiations with several Soviet enterprises are going on and that the Soviet ambassador is participating.

He affirmed that Peruvian-Soviet relations are good, even though Peru unilaterally denounced the contract with the Sevryba Company.

The minister said: "Sevryba is just an enterprise in the Soviet Union. Termination of that contract would not upset nation-to-nation relations."

The fisheries minister appeared before the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber of Deputies to explain the government's fishing policy with relation to our international agreements.

The minister's appearance had been requested by Deputy Pedro Cateriano from the Freedom Movement, who, by the way, did not attend the session.

Sobero said that the fishing policy from now on will be "transparent" to protect the country's interests.

As for the litigation against Sevryba, the minister said that its debt with Epsep [Peruvian Fishing Services Enterprise] is being handled by the courts.

The minister justified the cancellation of the contract, saying that the Soviet company did not catch and, more importantly, did not deliver to Epsep the tonnages called for in the contract.

As for the agreement with a Korean company to catch mollusks known as "pota," the minister said that the basic mistake was that the agreement was signed between a private company and the Peruvian state, not between governments.

Netherlands Government To Donate $20 Million

PY2507190591 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 17 Jul 91 p 1

[Excerpt] On 16 July, Netherlands Ambassador to Peru Hein Princen told EXPRESO that his country will contribute $20 million to the $1.3 billion being sought by Peru's Support Group to pay off the debt owed by Peru to multilateral organizations and to help their balance of payments in 1991 and 1992. [passage omitted]

Uruguay

Lacalle Opposed to 'Just Any GATT Agreement'

PY2507162891 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Text] President Luis Alberto Lacalle held a working breakfast with foreign correspondents. The president said Uruguay will not accept just any GATT agreement, and it is ready to break the dialogue if the prevailing positions on protectionism and dumping are maintained at all costs despite declarations to the contrary by representatives of developed countries.

The news conference-working breakfast is held from time to time in the journalists room of the Libertad Building. The president refused to comment on the news conference with local journalists. Media representatives who participated confirmed what Lacalle said, however. They reported that the president also talked about the Mercosur [Common Market of the South], the Parana-Paraguay Waterway, and other current issues. The guests gave their opinion on how European countries view Uruguay, South America, and the Southern Cone. According to a journalist, Italy sees us in the framework of a theory that the economically and socially most advanced countries are those that had the harshest military regimes, such as Chile. Other topics discussed by the president were the gradual integration of the region and the support of Aladi [Latin American Integration Association] for this important development.

President Lacalle To Travel to Bolivia, Brazil

PY2407135091 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Ruben Miron report from Government House]

[Text] Our country will sign an agreement with Bolivia under which the latter will use the port of Nueva Palmira as an outlet for Bolivian mining products. The agreement will be signed during a visit that President Luis Alberto Lacalle will make to the city of La Paz between 4 and 7 August 1991.

This was announced by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Dr. Hector Gros Espiell who also pointed out that, beyond political goals like the Mercosur [Common Market of the South], the waterway, and the Southern Cone, an effort will be made during this visit to increase trade with Bolivia, basically through exports of Uruguayan agricultural products.

The foreign minister further sttated that Lacalle will visit Brazil on 15, 16, and 17 September while President Collor de Mello will come to Uruguay in December.

Regarding his visit to Bolivia, the president of the Republic has sent a message to the Senate requesting authorization to leave the country.